



MOMENT
BY
MOMENT

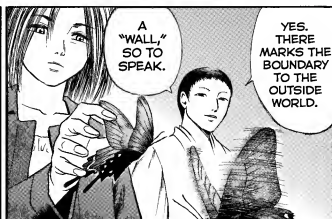
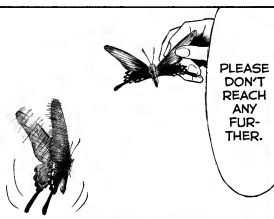
KORIO SEITA

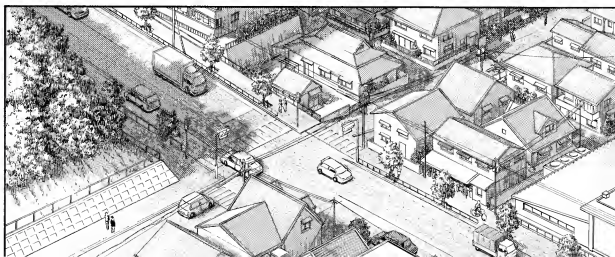
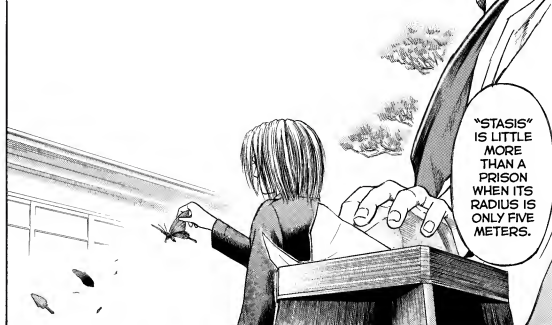


KOKKOKU

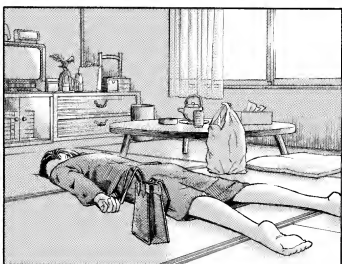
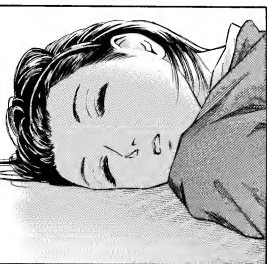
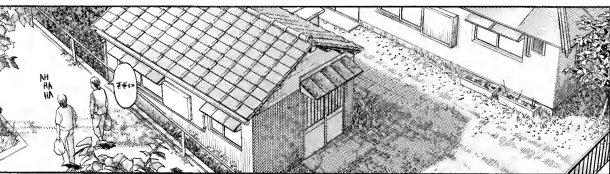
MOMENT BY MOMENT:

MORIO SEITR





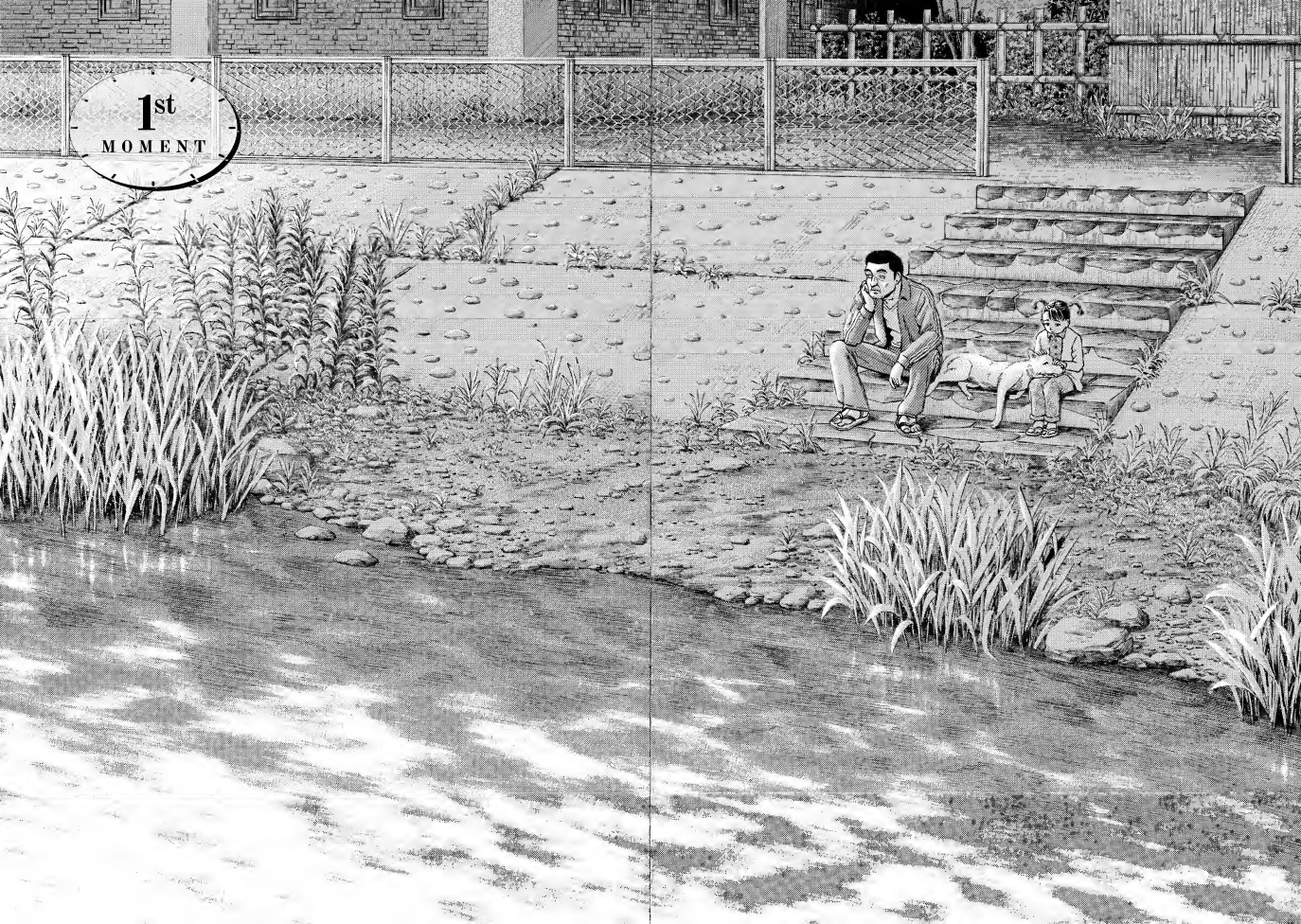
"I'M GOING TO LIVE WITH PEOPLE WHO DON'T MOVE."

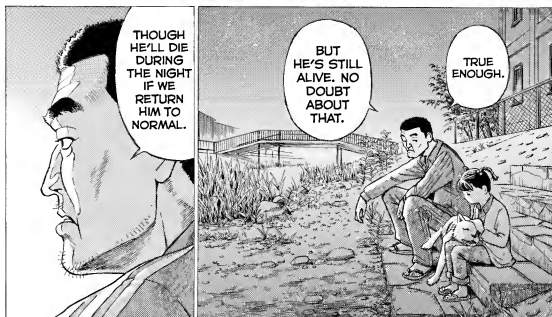
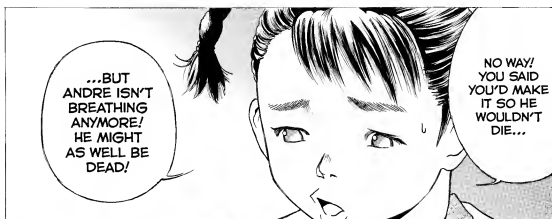


THAT'S WHAT YOU SAID.

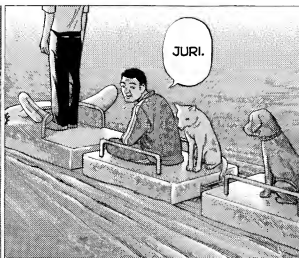
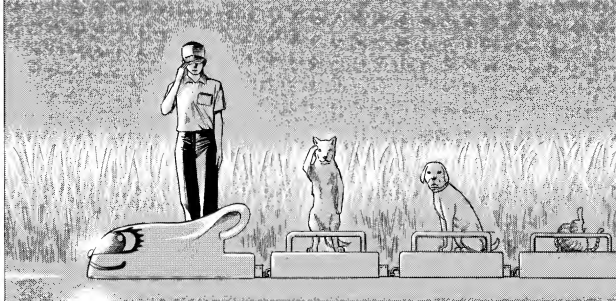


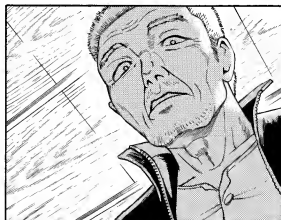
1st
MOMENT

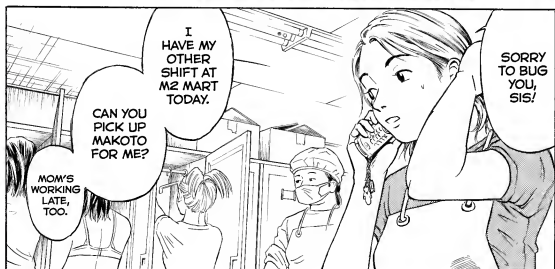
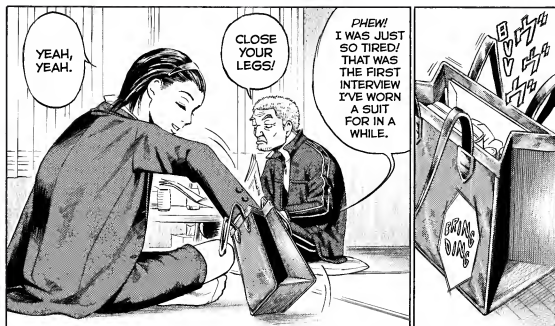




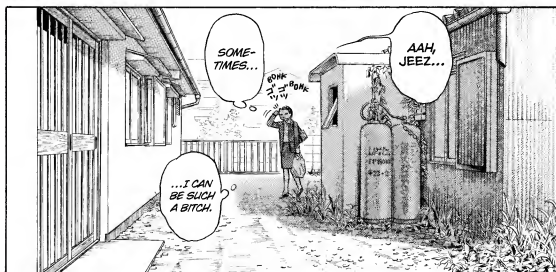
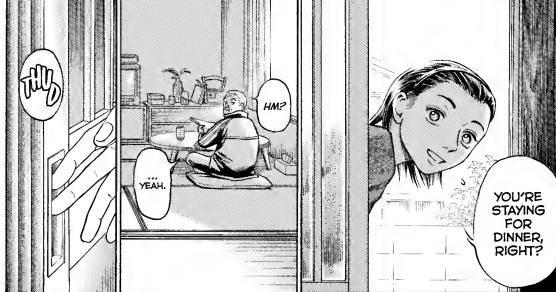














Watch closely.
These are
the final
moments...



IS
IT THAT
FUN TO
WATCH,
DAD?

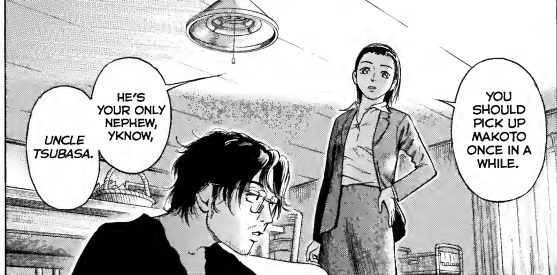


...of
those
who live
to fight!

2004







UNCLE
TSUBASA.

HE'S
YOUR ONLY
NEPHEW,
YKNOW,

YOU
SHOULD
PICK UP
MAKOTO
ONCE IN A
WHILE.



NAH,
IT'S FINE.
I'LL GO.

GO GET
MAKOTO,
TSUBASA.
YOU HAVEN'T
BEEN OUTSIDE
IN A WHILE,
RIGHT?

WHAT 31-YEAR-
OLD MAN CALLS
HIS 28- AND
25-YEAR-OLD
SISTERS
"CHAN?"

DOESN'T
SEEM
RIGHT
FOR ME
TO GO
GET
HIM...

DIDN'T
SANA-
CHAN ASK
YOU TO
PICK HIM
UP, JURI-
CHAN?



THOUGH
I'M NOT
REALLY
THAT
TIRED...

I'LL FIGHT
THROUGH THE
EXHAUSTION
AND PICK HIM
UP MYSELF.

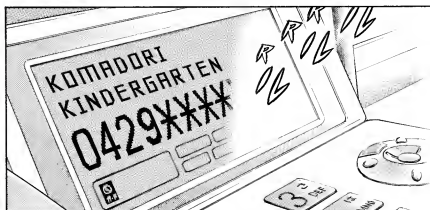
I'D
FEEL BAD
SENDING
SOMEONE
WHO DIES A
LITTLE EVERY
TIME THEY GO
OUTSIDE.



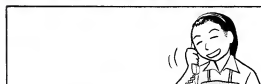




THIS DEFEATED
ATMOSPHERE
HAS TAKEN
OVER OUR
HOME...



...EVER SINCE
SANAЕ DECIDED
TO GIVE BIRTH TO
MAKOTO WITHOUT
REVEALING WHO THE
FATHER WAS.



HELLO?



HE
CLAIMS
TO BE
MAKOTO-
KUN'S
UNCLE...

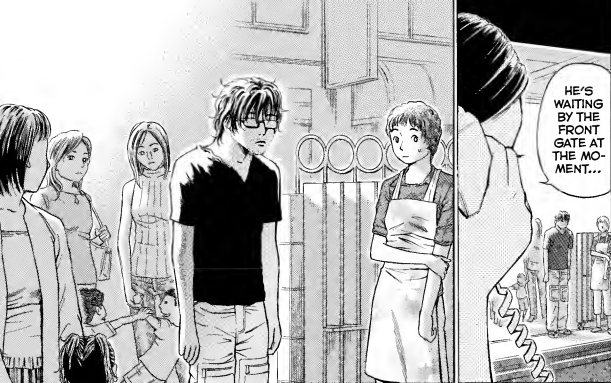
...A MAN
WHO I
ASSUME
IS SANAЕ-
SAN'S
OLDER
BROTHER
SHOWED
UP AT THE
KINDER-
GARTEN.

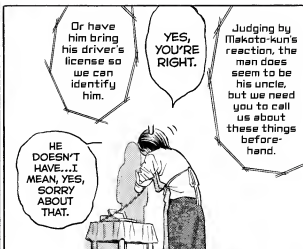


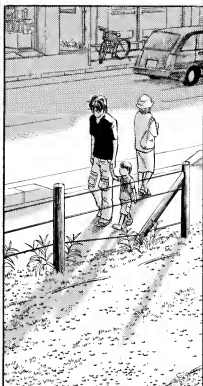
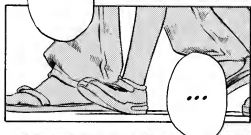
YOU
SEE...

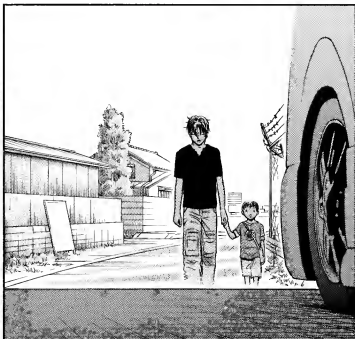
I'M
CALLING
SINCE I
COULDN'T
REACH
SANAЕ-SAN.

OH, IS
THIS
SANAЕ'S
SISTER?









DON'T YOU
REMEMBER
ME?





SHOULDN'T
YOU WORRY
ABOUT THE
KID?



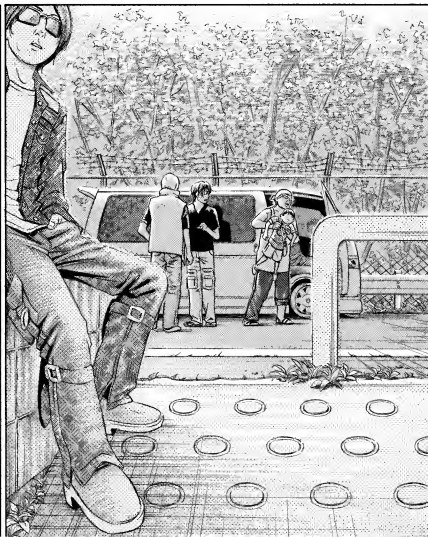
WHOA,
WHOA!



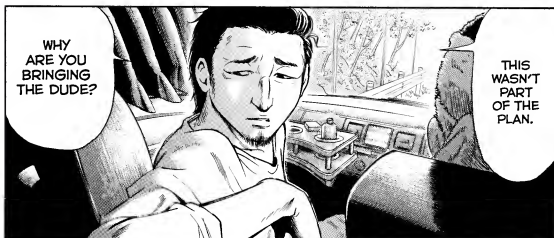
SORRY,
GIVE ME
A SEC.
I'LL RE-
MEMBER.



UPSY-
DAISY!







WHY
ARE YOU
BRINGING
THE DUDE?

THIS
WASN'T
PART OF
THE PLAN.



TOSS
THE KID
IN THE
BAG.

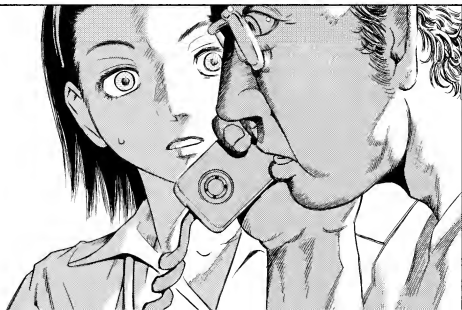
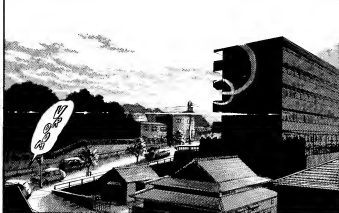
WHAT
A BUZZ-
KILL.

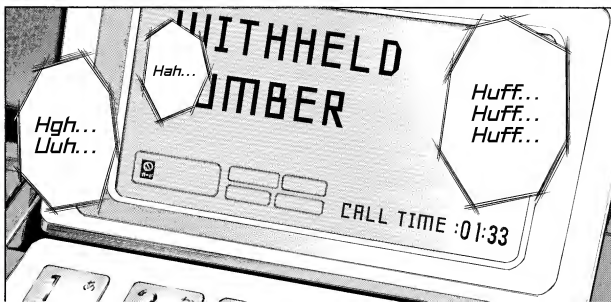
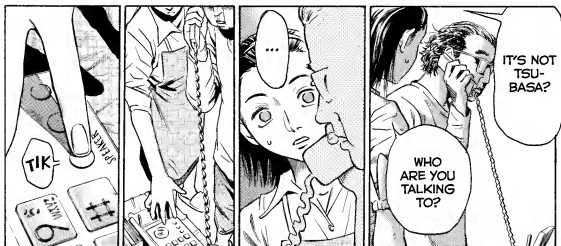


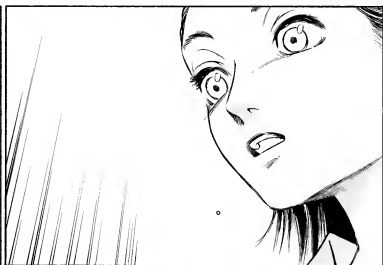
Whoa!
Looks
good on
you, kid.

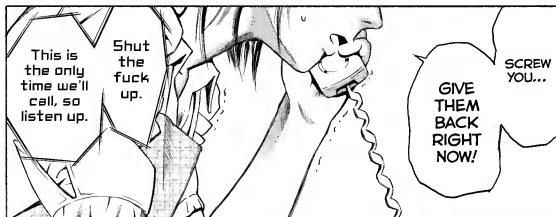
WHAT-
EVER. HE'S
EASIER TO
HANDLE
THAN A
SCREAMING
CHICK.

TCH...









We want
5,000,000 yen*,
cash.

*APPROX. 50,000 USD.



...we'll kill
Uncle
Tsubasa.

...if you
don't
show up
by 7:20...



The ring-
leader's
kinda
fucked
in the
head.

Hey,
I don't
wanna
do this,
either,
lady.
Ha, ha.

PLEASE,
STOP
THIS...



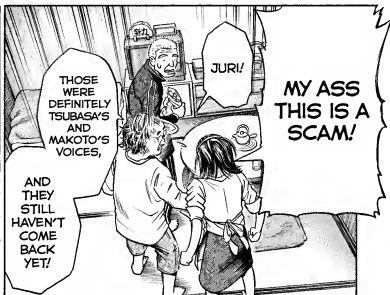
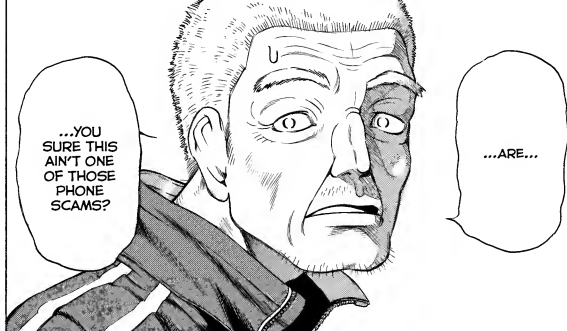
You'd
better
hurry.
See ya.

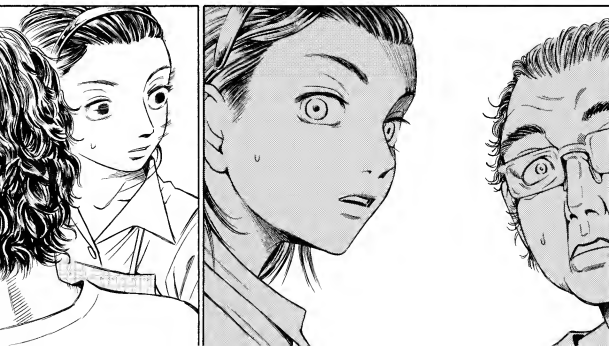
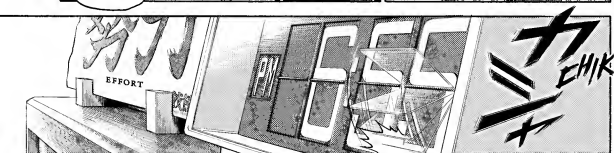
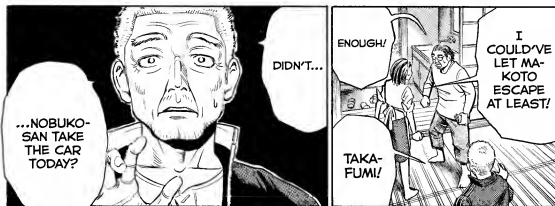
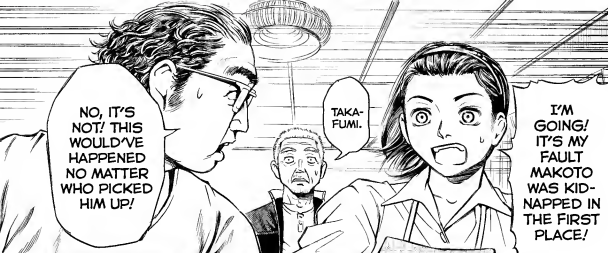
WAIT!
LET ME
TALK TO
MAKOTO!

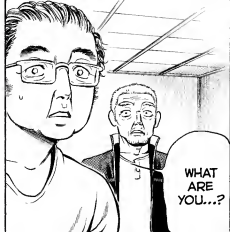


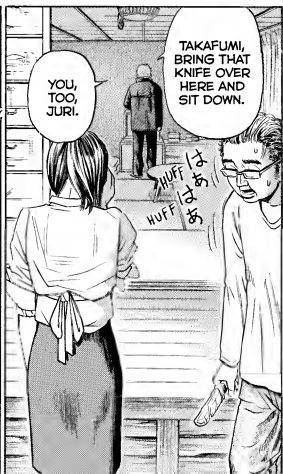
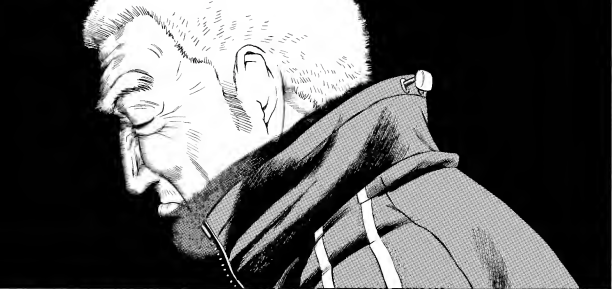
Anyway,
just get it
straight that
you don't have
time to call
the cops.

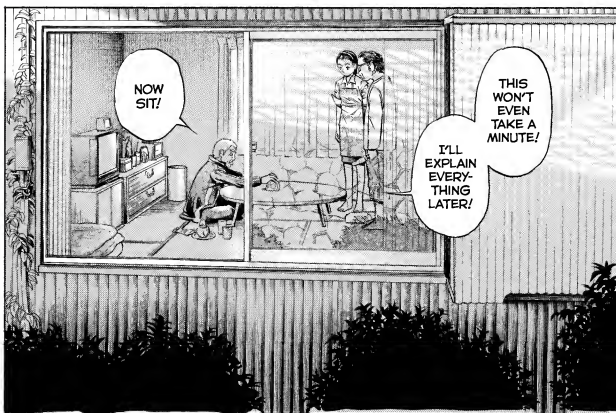
Well, if
it comes
down to
that,
I'll prob-
ably just
split.

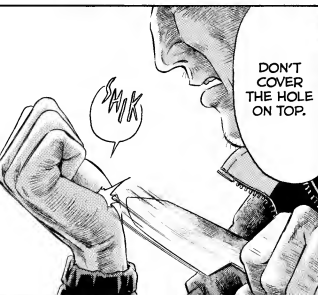
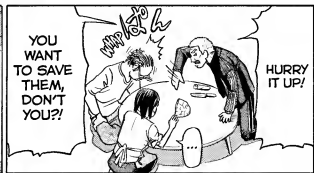


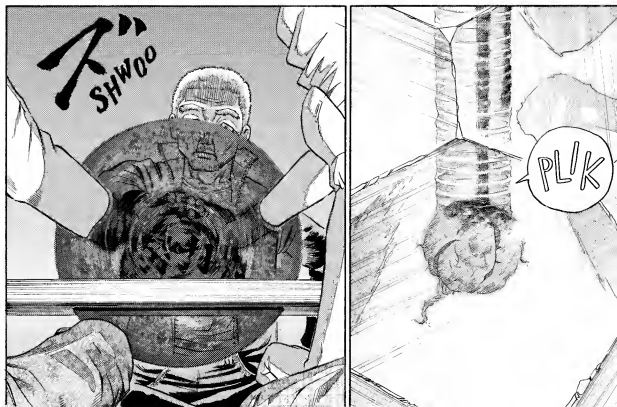
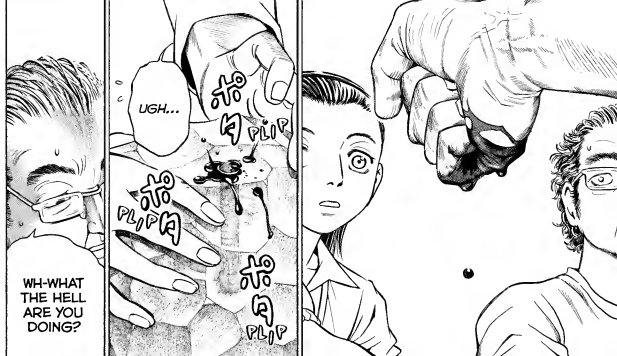


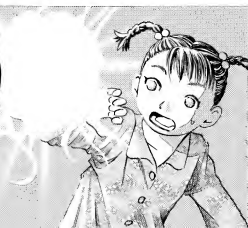
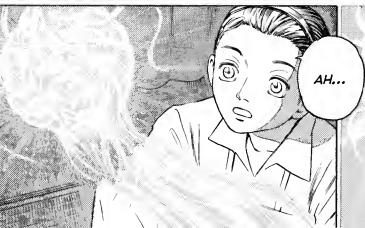
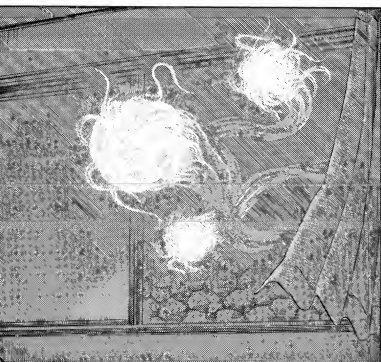




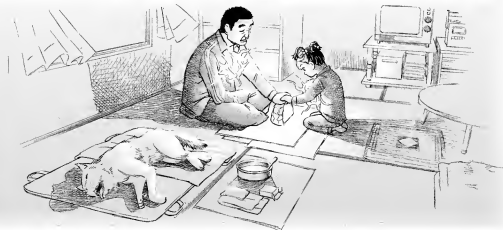
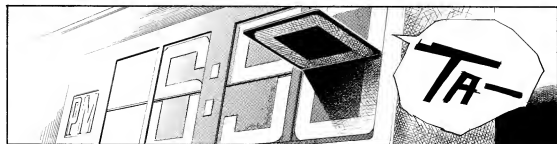


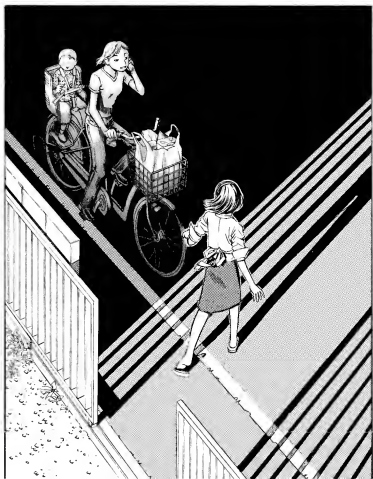
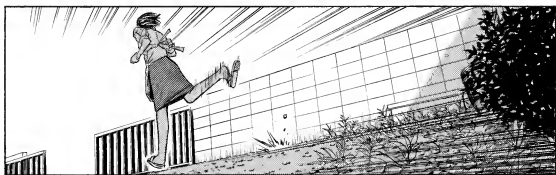
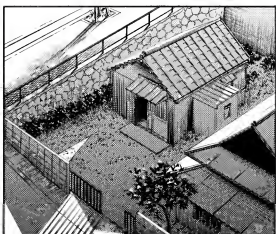
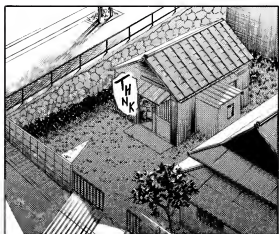


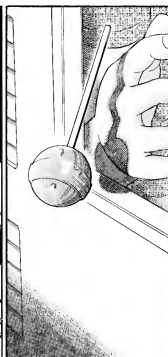
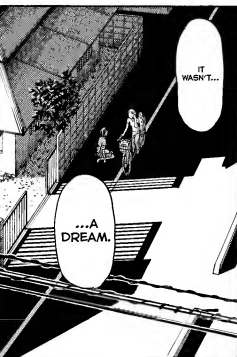
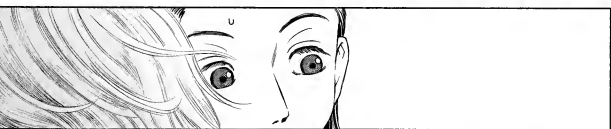
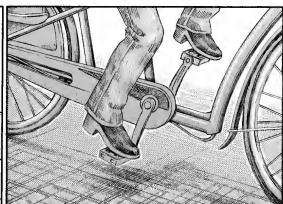
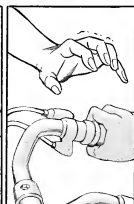
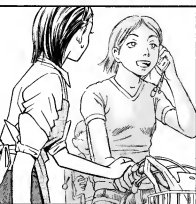
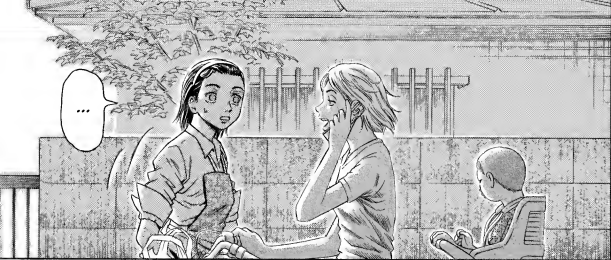


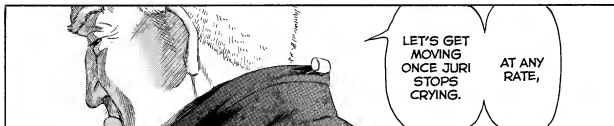




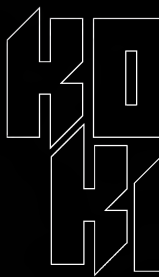












WHAT SORT OF
CONCEPTS OF
SPACE AND TIME
ARE AT WORK TO
PRODUCE THIS
PHENOMENON?

SO,
WHAT WE'RE
EXPERIENCING
RIGHT NOW...

...HOW
AND WHY
EXACTLY...

...IS
THIS
HAPPEN-
ING?!

I'M
ASKING...

WHAT?!?

HUH...?

HELL
IF I
KNOW!

EXACTLY!

YOU
WANT A
SCIENTIFIC
EXPLANA-
TION?

WE HAVE TO
MAKE SURE
MAKOTO AND
TSUBASA
ARE SAFE.

ENOUGH.
LET'S
JUST
GO.

BUT
YOU
SAID
YOU'D
EXPLAIN
EVERY-
THING...

WHO
CARES
ABOUT
THAT?!

YOU
CAN'T JUST
DO SOME-
THING LIKE
THIS THEN
SHRUG IT
OFF.

WHAT'S
WITH
THAT?

THAT'S NOT
GONNA FLY,
DAD!

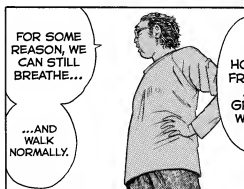


...BUT HE
DIDN'T KNOW
WHERE THAT
STONE CAME
FROM,
EITHER.

THE
TECHNIQUE
ITSELF PROB-
ABLY DATES
BACK AGES
AGO.



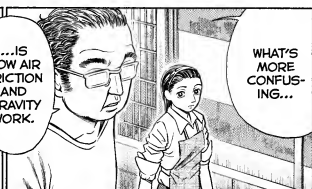
I LEARNED
ABOUT THIS
FROM MY
GRAND-
FATHER...



FOR SOME
REASON, WE
CAN STILL
BREATHE...

...AND
WALK
NORMALLY.

...IS
HOW AIR
FRICTION
AND
GRAVITY
WORK.



WHAT'S
MORE
CONFUS-
ING...

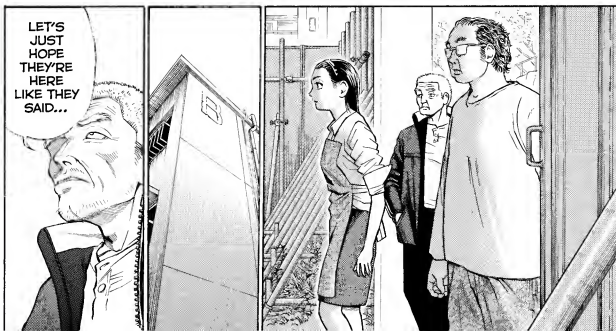
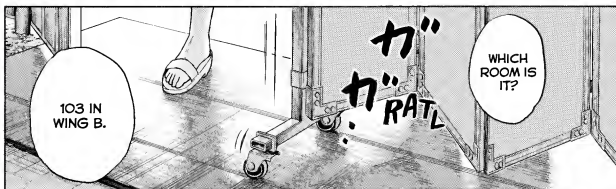
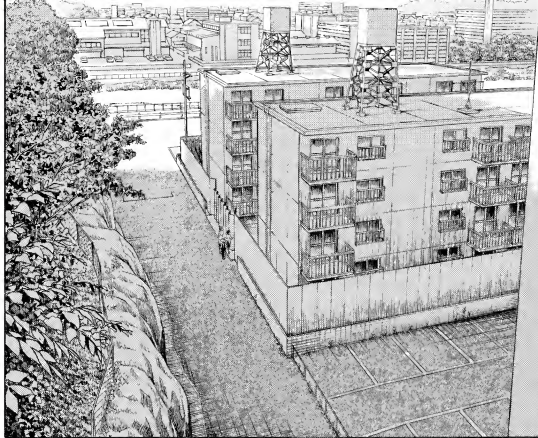


OH, BAD
IDEA?

GET
DOWN
FROM
THERE!

YOU
SHOULDN'T
JUST STAND
ON SOME-
ONE'S
CAR...

2nd
MOMENT

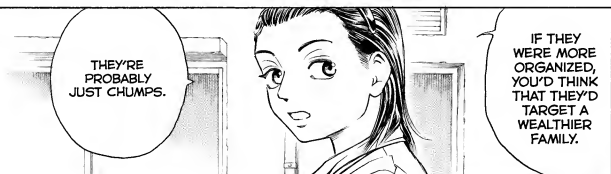




EXCHANG-
ING THE
HOSTAGES
HERE IN
PERSON
SEEMS A
LITTLE LAX,
DOESN'T IT?

KIDNAPPERS
ARE USUALLY
VERY CARE-
FUL WHEN
COLLECTING
A RANSOM.

DAD...



THEY'RE
PROBABLY
JUST CHUMPS.

IF THEY
WERE MORE
ORGANIZED,
YOU'D THINK
THAT THEY'D
TARGET A
WEALTHIER
FAMILY.

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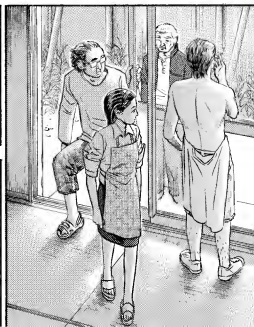
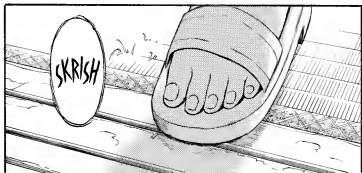
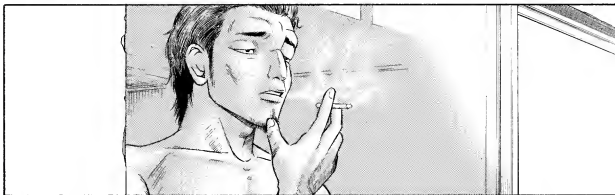
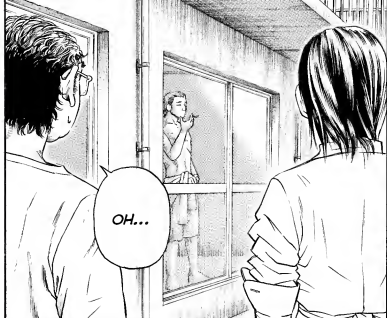


LET'S GO
AROUND
BACK.

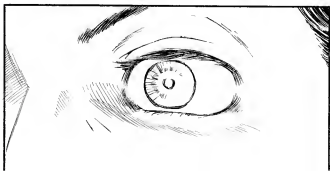
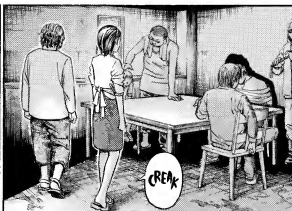
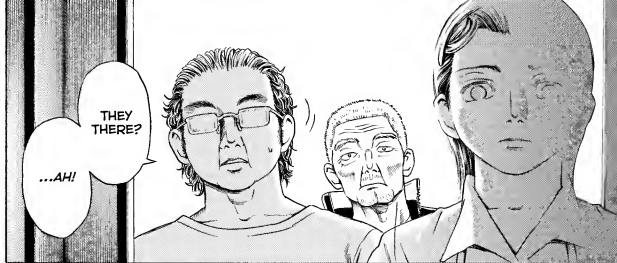
YEAH...

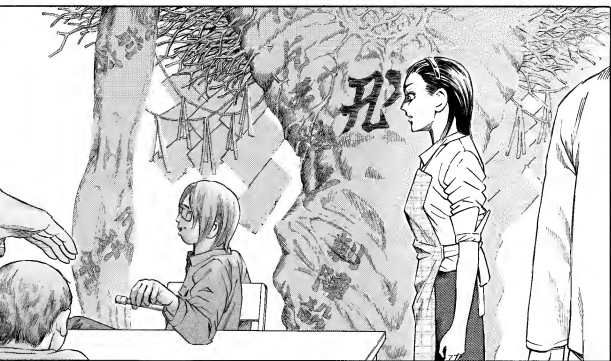
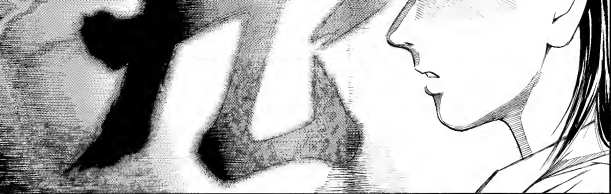
MAKES
SENSE
THAT
THEY'D
LOCK THE
DOOR AT
LEAST.

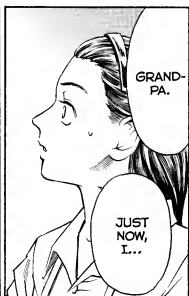
CHIKA
CHIKA

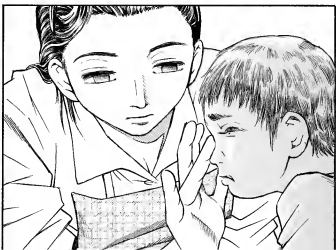
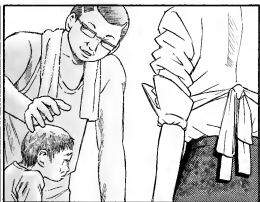
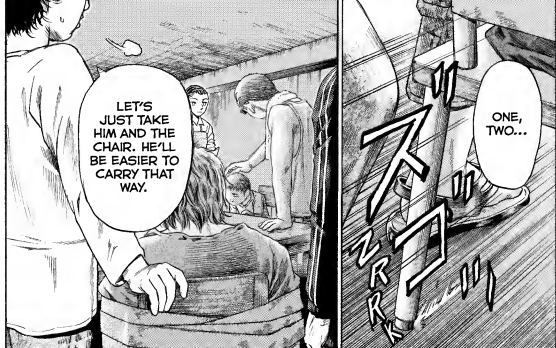


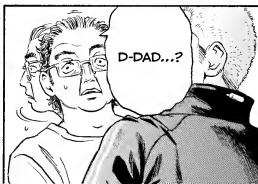
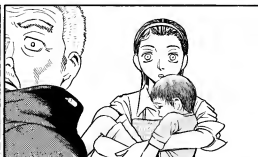
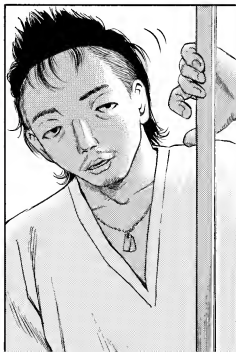






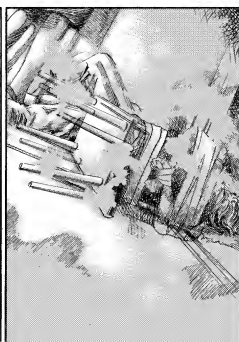
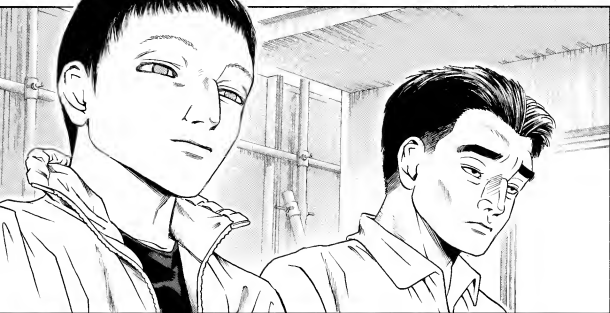








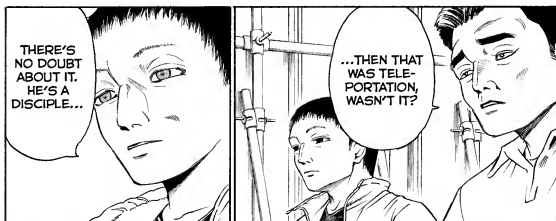














TO BE
HONEST,
I ENVY
HIM.

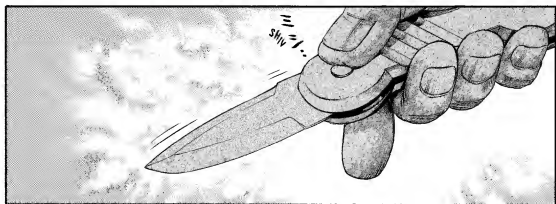
ONLY
THOSE
WITH HIS
BLOOD...



CAN'T
YOU DO
THAT,
TOO?

HEY,
THEY'RE
GONNA
GET AWAY.







THIS
WAS THE
PLAN ALL
ALONG.



IT APPEARS
WHEN IT SENSES
SOMEONE'S
INTENT TO KILL
ONE OF THE
"STALLED."



THAT'S A
"HANDLER."



THAT'S
WHAT...
I SAW
EARLIER...

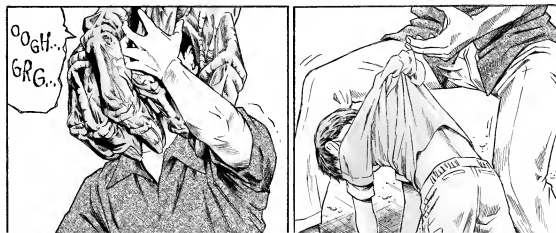


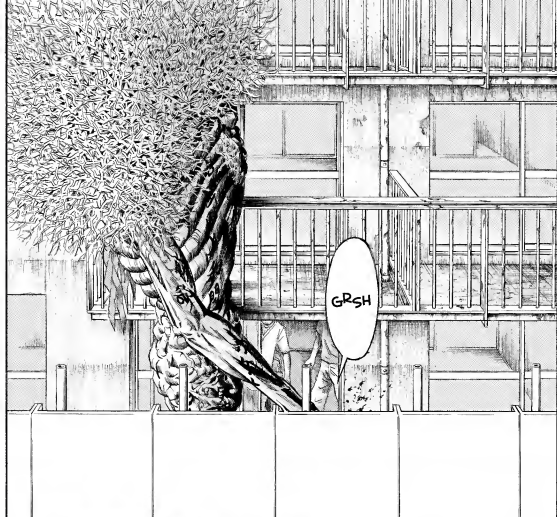
OUT...

OUT OF
EVERYTHING
YOU TOLD US,
THIS IS THE
ONE THING
I COULDN'T
BELIEVE, BUT
NOW...

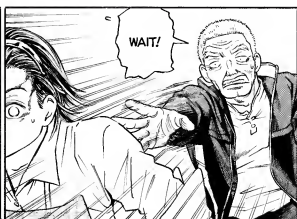


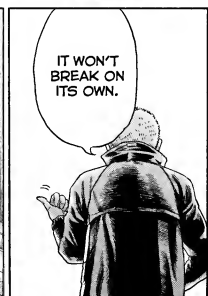
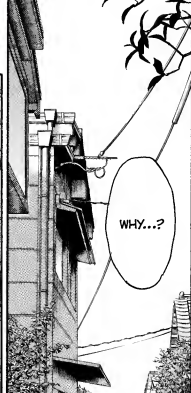
WHOA!

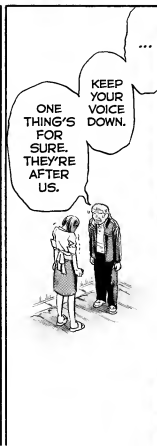
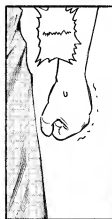


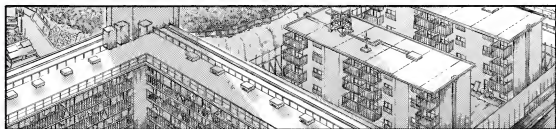














IT'S
USEFUL IN
ITS OWN
RIGHT.

AS YOU
SAW, IT WILL
PREVENT
EVERYONE
FROM DOING
AS THEY
PLEASE.

LIKE YOU
SAID, THAT
THING IS
DEFINITELY
THE BIGGEST
OBSTACLE
FOR US.

I
WAS TOO
OPTIMISTIC.



MORE
IMPOR-
TANTLY...

IT'S FINE.



FRANKLY,
I THINK WE
SHOULD'VE
SHOWN THAT
TO THE IDIOTS
IN GROUP TWO,
DON'T YOU?

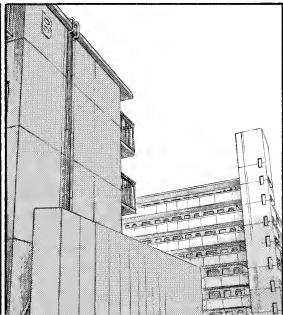


...IS PROVING MORE
TROUBLESOME THAN
I ANTICIPATED.

...THAT OLD
MAN'S TELE-
PORTATION...



TAKAFUMI
ISN'T UNDER
THE HANDLER'S
SAFEGUARD.

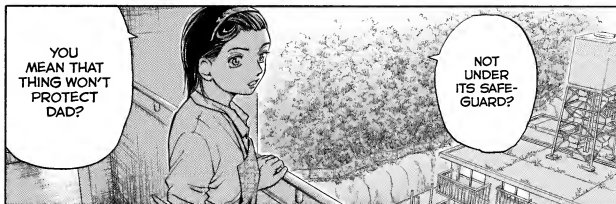




I NEED
YOU TO
GO HOME
AND BRING
ME THE
STONE.

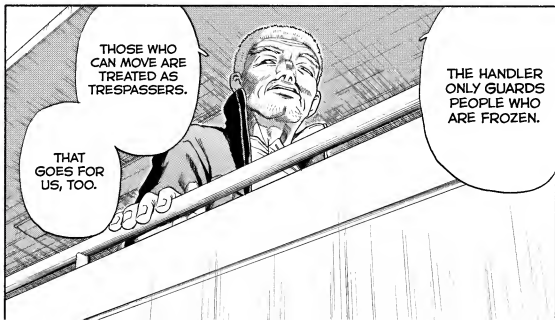
I'D LIKE
TO MAKE
SURE HE'S
SAFE AND
SAVE HIM IF
POSSIBLE.

I ALSO
WANT TO
MAKE IT
SO I CAN
LIFT THE
SPELL AT
ANY TIME.



YOU
MEAN THAT
THING WON'T
PROTECT
DAD?

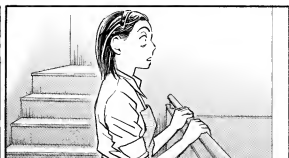
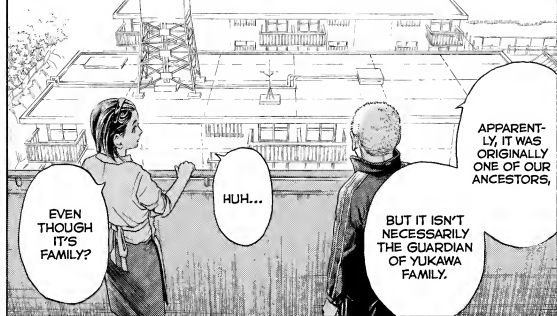
NOT
UNDER
ITS SAFE-
GUARD?

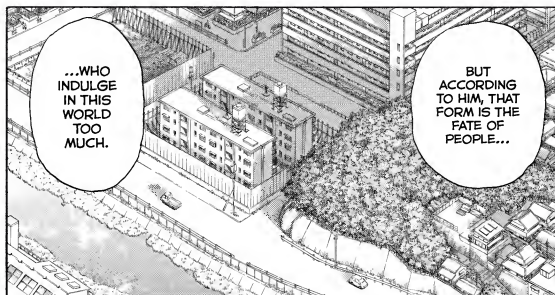


THOSE WHO
CAN MOVE ARE
TREATED AS
TRESPASSERS.

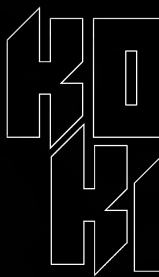
THAT
GOES FOR
US, TOO.

THE HANDLER
ONLY GUARDS
PEOPLE WHO
ARE FROZEN.



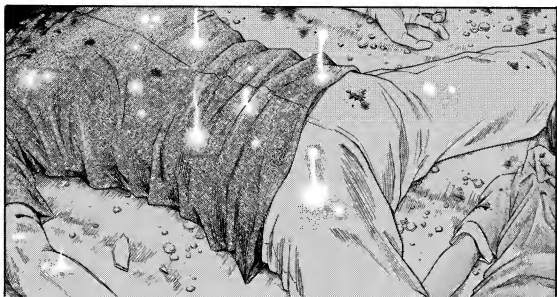
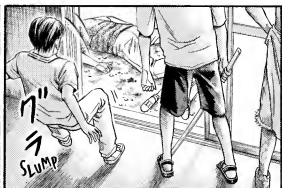
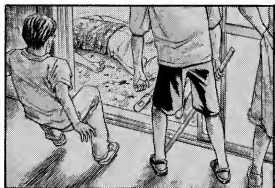
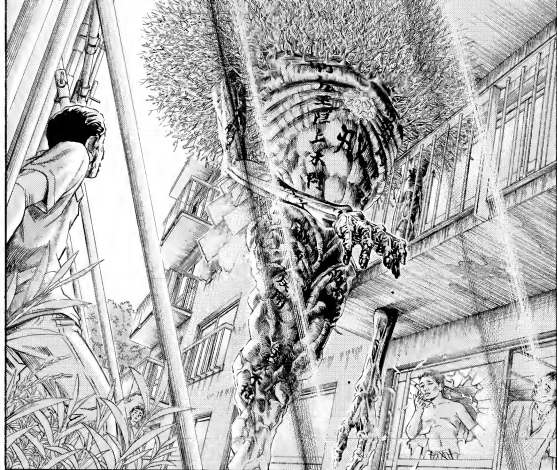


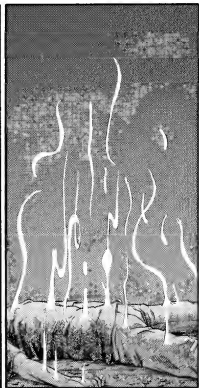
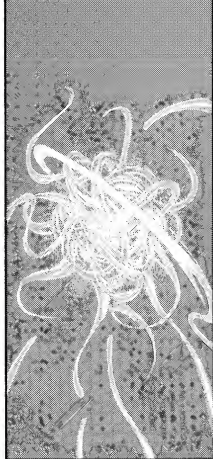


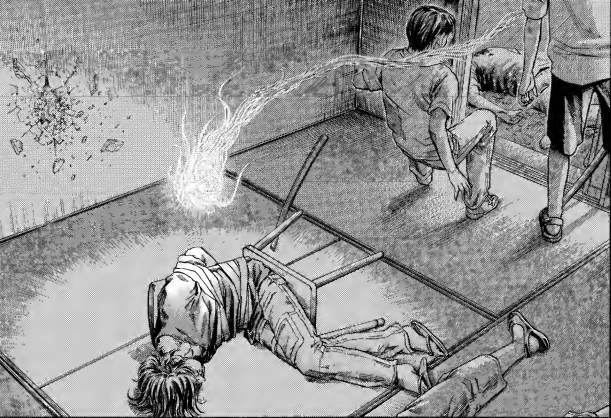
















3rd
MOMENT





OKAY!

AFTER 'EM/
TOBINO AND
SHIMOSAKA,
WITH ME!
WE'LL GO
AROUND!

MIYAO, HOOK
UP WITH THE
GUYS AT THE
ENTRANCE
AND SEARCH
THE AREA!

...



IS THE
OTHER
ONE STILL
THERE?

WAIT,
SHIBATA.
ONLY TWO
GOT AWAY.

F"
TMP
F"
TMP"



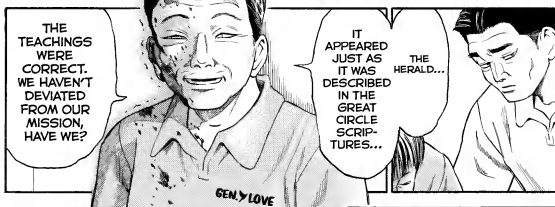
GOOD
POINT...

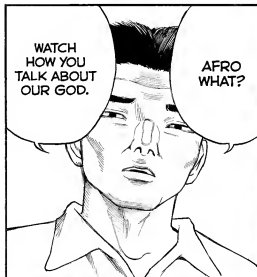
CAPTURING
HIM IS OUR
TOP PRIORITY.
WE SHOULDN'T
SPLIT UP TOO
MUCH.

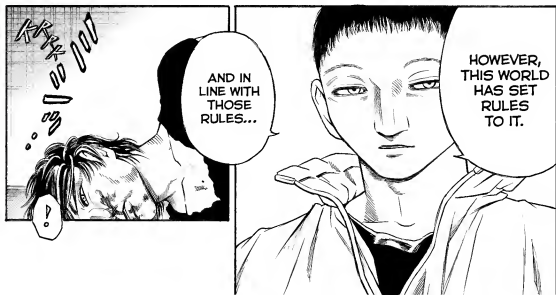
...NO, HE'S
ALIVE.

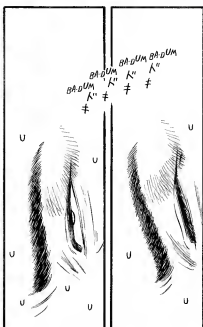
DID YOU
KILL HIM?

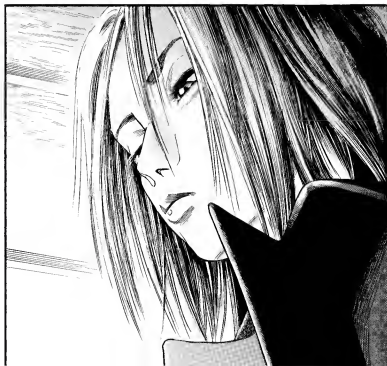
HE'S
OUT
COLD
INSIDE.













SHIBATA-SAAAN!



AAH, DON'T
COME ANY
CLOSER.
IT'S NOT
A PRETTY
SIGHT.

AND
SHOW
SOME
PIETY,
WOULD
YOU?

I
COULDN'T
MAKE
HEADS
OR TAILS
OVER WHAT
MIYAO-KUN
WAS TRYING
TO SAY.

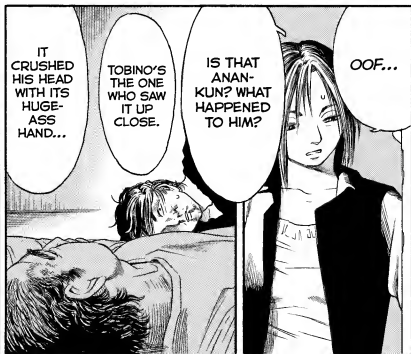
DID A
HERALD
REALLY
SHOW UP?



ugh...



...?

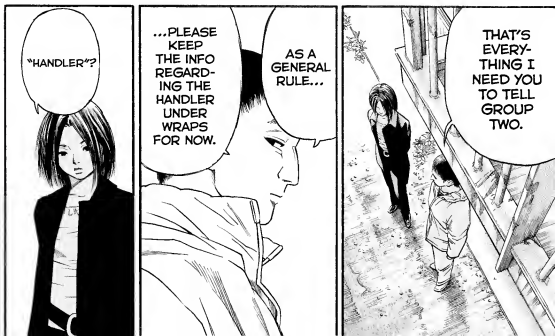


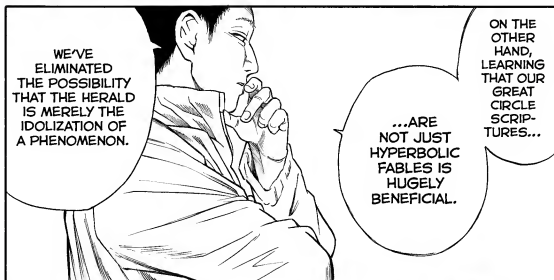
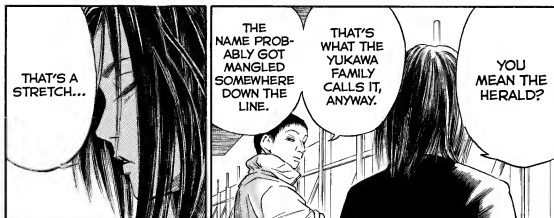
IT
CRUSHED
HIS HEAD
WITH ITS
HUGE-
ASS
HAND...

TOBINO'S
THE ONE
WHO SAW
IT UP
CLOSE.

IS THAT
ANAN-
KUN? WHAT
HAPPENED
TO HIM?

OOF...







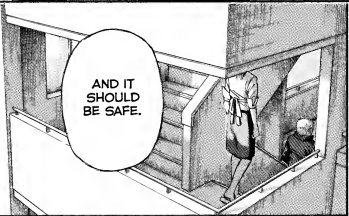
WE'LL
REDO THE
SPELL.



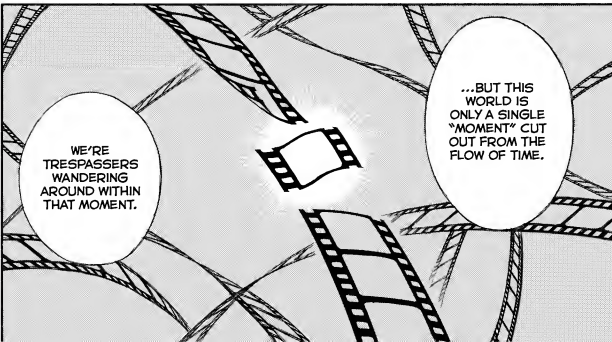
THAT WILL
PROBABLY
BE THE MOST
EFFECTIVE WAY
OF THROWING
THEM OFF.



I DON'T
KNOW WHERE
THOSE GUYS
CAME FROM...



AND IT
SHOULD
BE SAFE.



WE'RE
TRESPASSERS
WANDERING
AROUND WITHIN
THAT MOMENT.

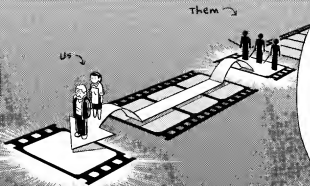
...BUT THIS
WORLD IS
ONLY A SINGLE
"MOMENT" CUT
OUT FROM THE
FLOW OF TIME.

IF THEY WERE
EVEN A MILLI-
SECOND OFF
WITH THEIR
TIMING, THEY
WOULD HAVE
WOUND UP IN
AN ENTIRELY
DIFFERENT
STASIS.



THE CHANCES
THAT THEY JUST
HAPPENED TO
ENTER THE EXACT
SAME FRAME
AS WE DID ARE
NEARLY ZERO.

THEN, WE'LL
IMMEDIATELY
RECAST THE
SPELL AND
ENTER A
DIFFERENT
STASIS.



SO...
FOR THE
TIME BEING,
WE'LL LIFT
THE SPELL
AND EXIT
THIS STASIS.

BUT IF
WE DO
THAT,
DAD'LL...



ONCE WE
REACH A
STASIS
WITHOUT
THOSE
GUYS...

IF YOU
LEAVE SOME-
ONE BEHIND
IN STASIS,
YOU'LL NEVER
SEE THEM
AGAIN...



RIGHT,
WE HAVE
TO SAVE
TAKAFUMI
FIRST.

...WE'LL
RESCUE
TSUBASA
AND
MAKOTO.





OKAY.

FOR NOW,
YOU GO
GET THE
STONE.

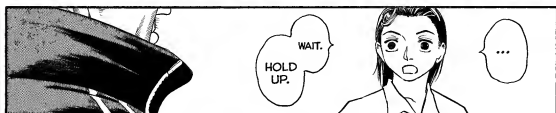
IT'S
BEST IF
I SAVE
TAKA-
FUMI BY
MYSELF.



EVEN
IF YOU
CAN USE
ILLUSIONS,
BE...

DON'T
OVERDO
IT, OKAY?

EVEN IF I
CAN'T SAVE
HIM, I'LL
RETURN BY
THE TIME
YOU DO.



WAIT.
HOLD
UP.

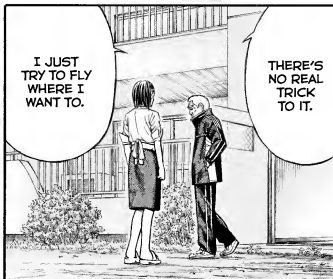
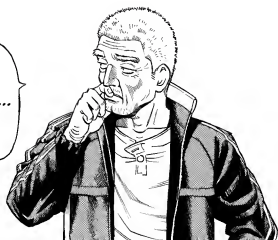
...



ERR...
THAT TELE-
PORTATION!
HOW DID YOU
DO THAT?
CAN I DO IT,
TOO?!

ILLU-
WHAT?

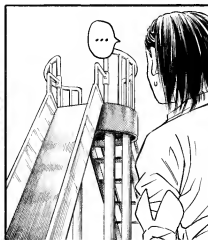
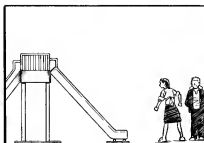
THAT
WAS AN
ILLUSION
YOU USED
EARLIER,
RIGHT,
GRANDPA?

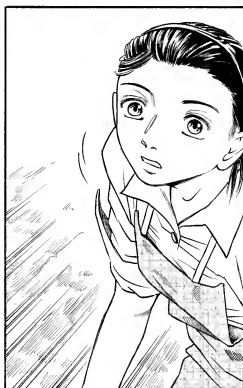
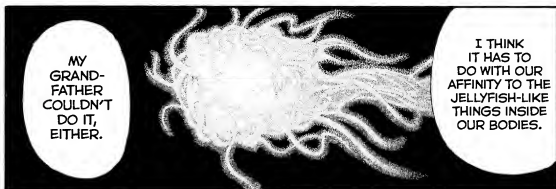
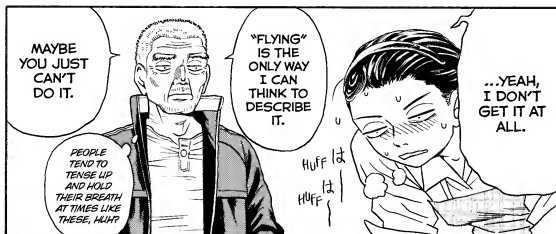


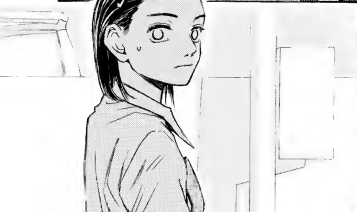
Fly.

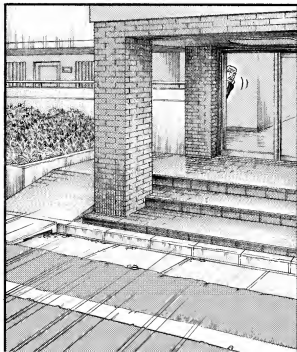
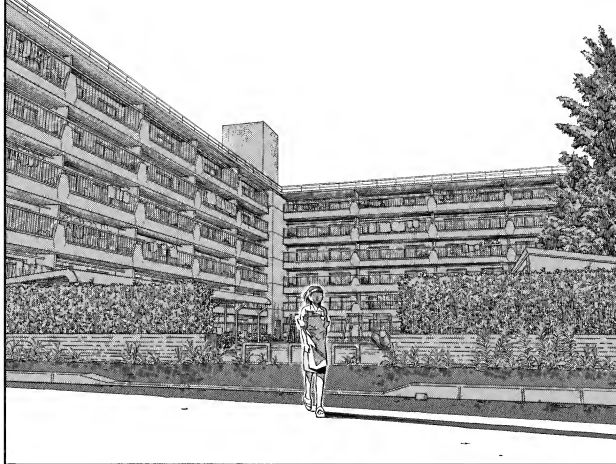


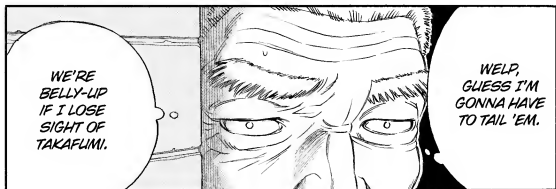
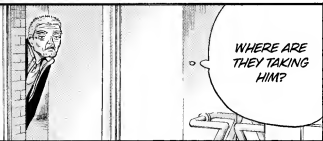
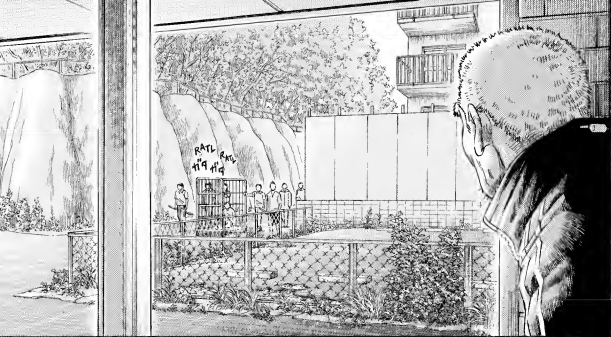
...Fly?

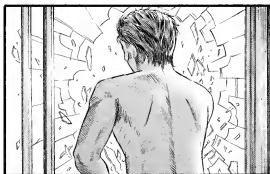


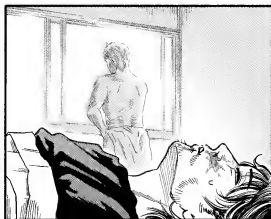
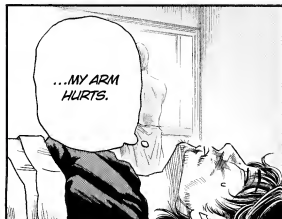


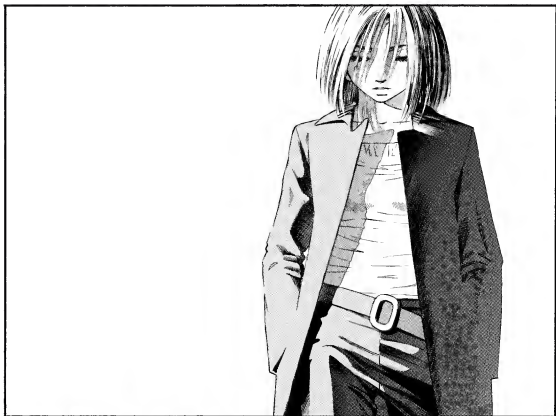


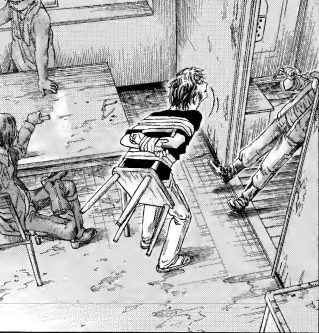


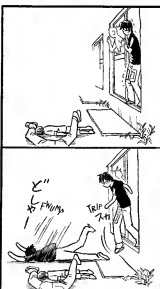


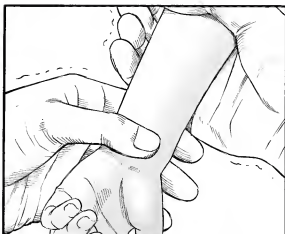


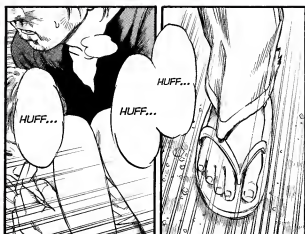


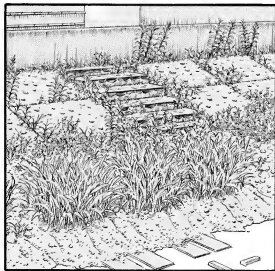
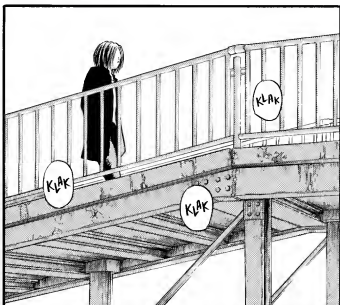
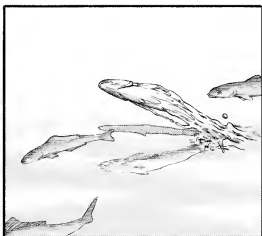
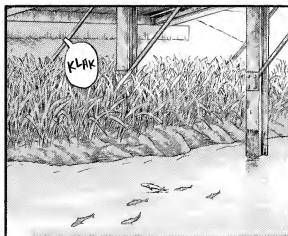






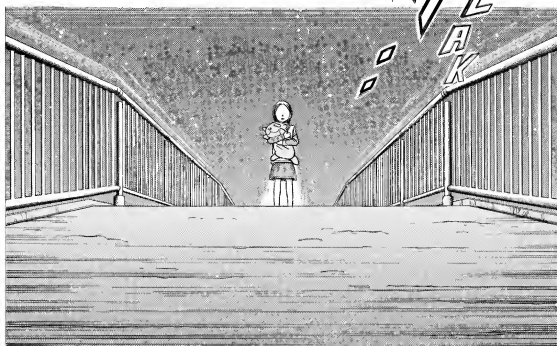
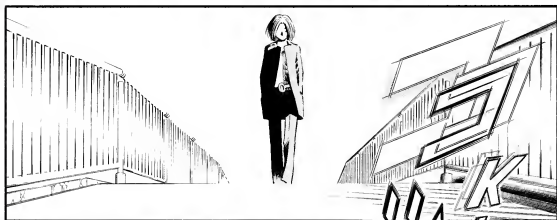
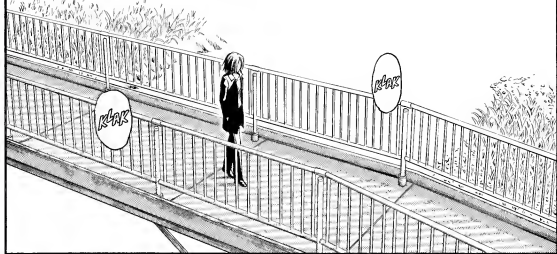


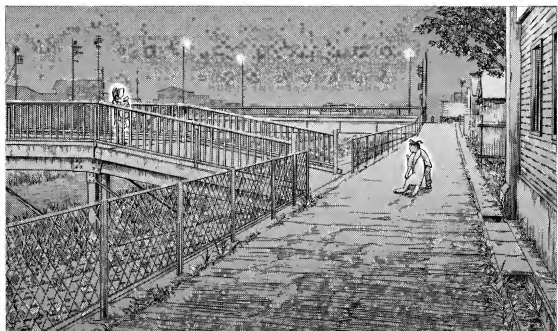
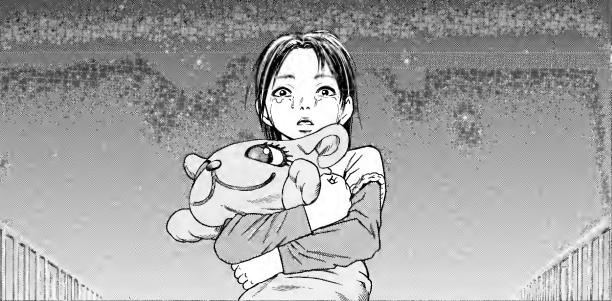


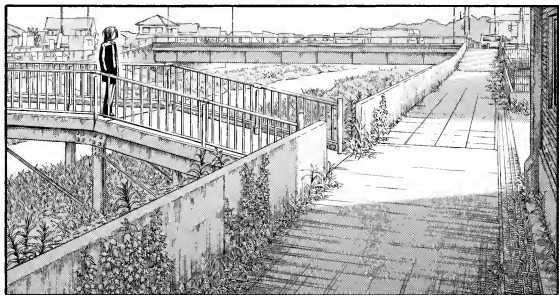


IT'S BEEN
22 YEARS,
HUH?

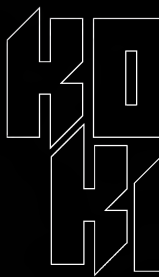


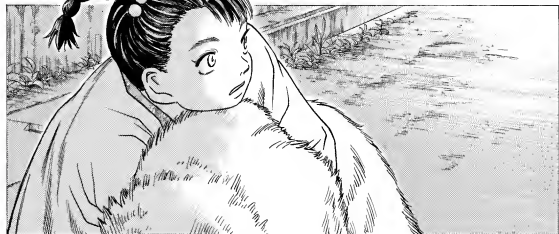
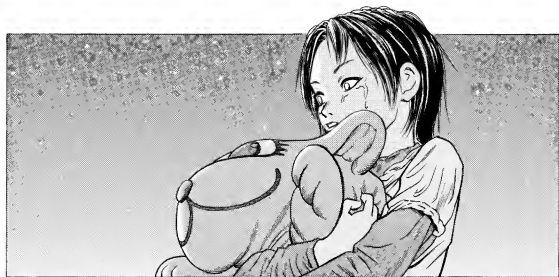




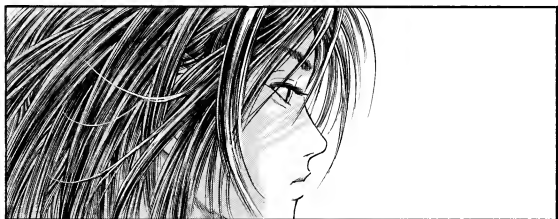


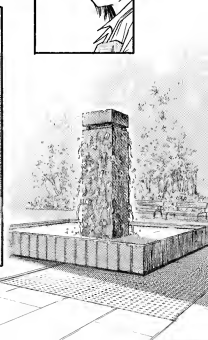
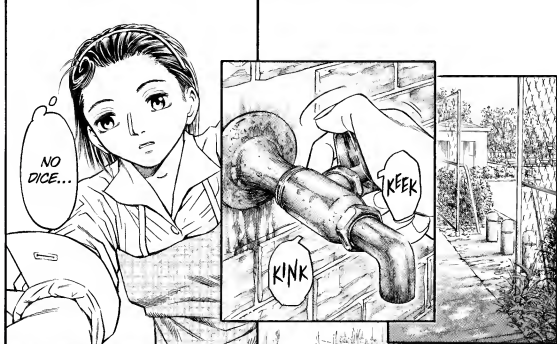


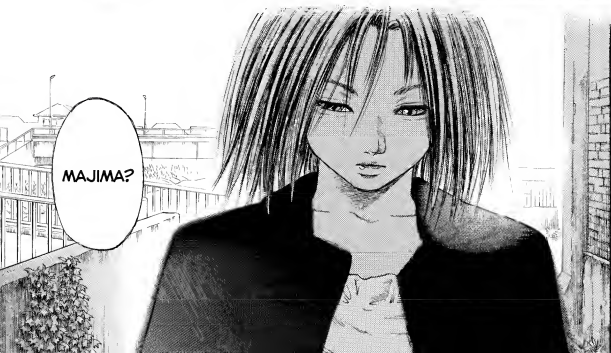
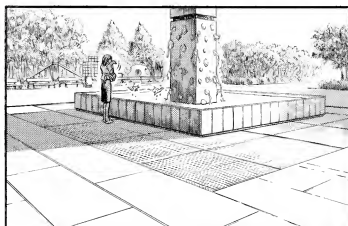
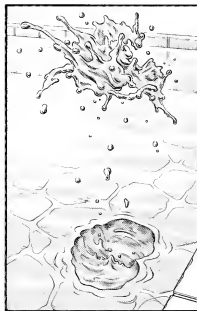












4th
MOMENT

IN
SPITE OF
ACTING ALL
HAUGHTY?

WHO
KNOWS?
MAYBE SHE'S
JUST A HIRED
HAND LIKE
US.

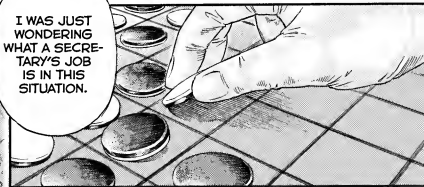
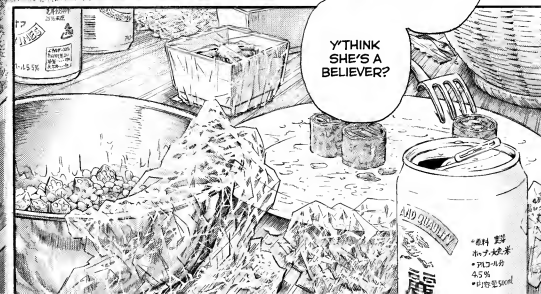
I GUESS
SHE JOINED
THE GENUINE
LOVE SOCIETY
LAST YEAR.

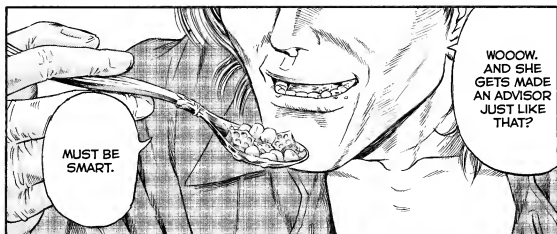
OOH, HER
NAME'S
MAJIMA,
HUH?

I WAS JUST
WONDERING
WHAT A SECRE-
TARY'S JOB
IS IN THIS
SITUATION.

GOOD
QUESTION.
I HEAR SHE'S
SORT OF LIKE
SAGAWA-SAN'S
ADVISOR.

Y' THINK
SHE'S A
BELIEVER?





MUST BE
SMART.

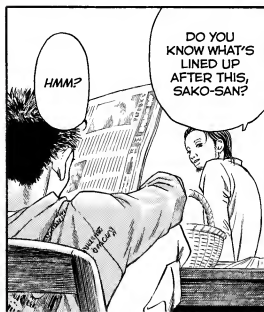
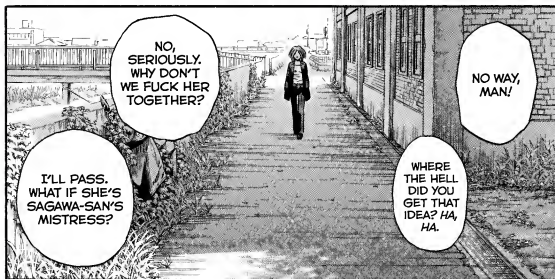
WOOOW.
AND SHE
GETS MADE
AN ADVISOR
JUST LIKE
THAT?

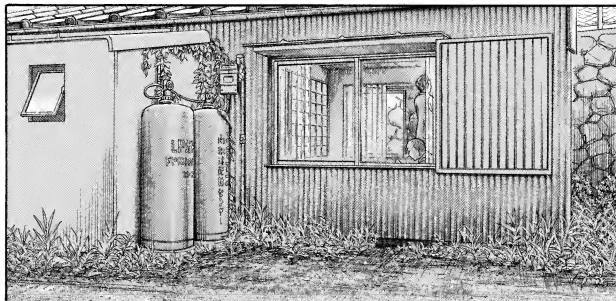
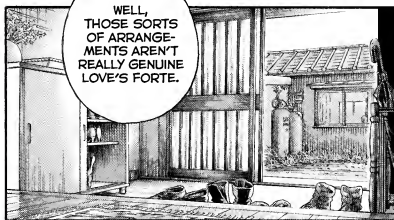
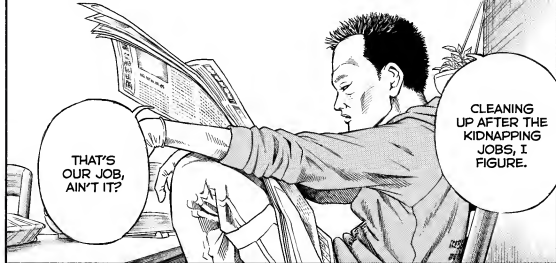


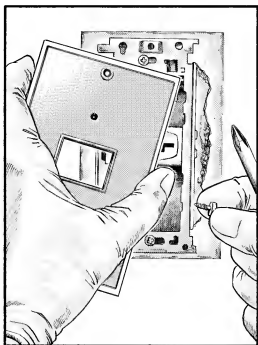
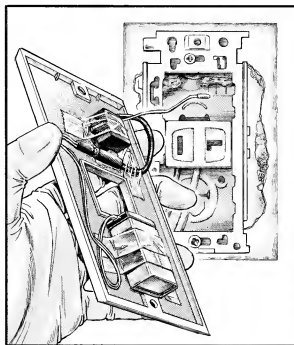
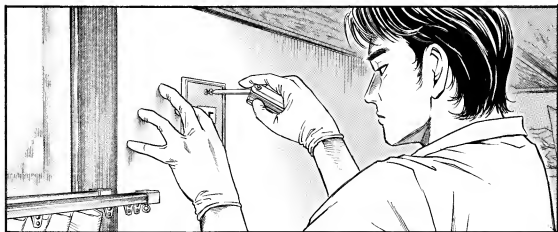
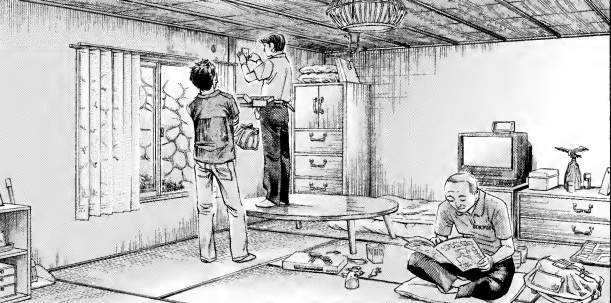
WHAT,
YOU GOT A
THING FOR
MAJIMA-SAN
OR SOME-
THIN?

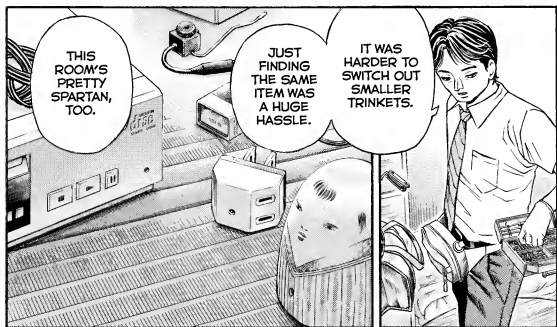
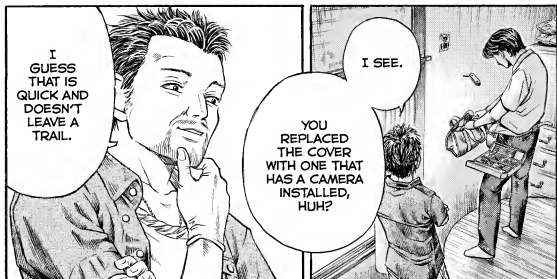
YEAH.
I WANNA
RAPE MY WAY
CLOSER TO
HER HEART.

I WISH
THEY'D
LET US FLY
SOLO.

















ARE YOU SAYIN' THE OLD MAN'S A PSYCHIC?



QUESTION.

APPARENTLY, HE COULD JUMP FIVE TO TEN METERS AT A TIME.

I DIDN'T SEE IT FIRSTHAND, BUT EVERYONE THERE DID.



...CAN ANYONE IN STASIS DO THAT?

OR...



INCIDENTALLY, THIS IS ALL NOTED IN THE GREAT CIRCLE SCRIPTURES.

NO. IT'S OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT IT'S AN ABILITY ONLY THEIR BLOODLINE POSSESSES WHILE IN STASIS.

OOH.

IS THAT RIGHT?



THE IDEA THAT IT'S ONE FAMILY'S POWER IS A LITTLE TOO MUZZY TO SWALLOW.

DOCTRINES ALL GET TWEAKED FOR SOMEONE'S CONVENIENCE.

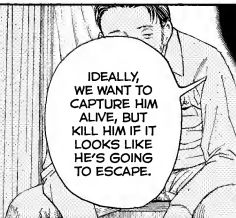
I DUNNO.



GO AHEAD
AND PRACTICE
TELEPORTING
IN YOUR
SPARE TIME.



YOU'RE
FREE TO
THINK WHAT
YOU WANT.



IDEALLY,
WE WANT TO
CAPTURE HIM
ALIVE, BUT
KILL HIM IF IT
LOOKS LIKE
HE'S GOING
TO ESCAPE.



AT ANY
RATE, DON'T
TAKE HIM
LIGHTLY JUST
BECAUSE
HE'S OLD.



I NEED
JUST ONE OF
YOU TO GO
TO CARDINAL
SAGAWA ON
A SPECIAL
MISSION.

MAAAN.

AGAIN?

YOU'RE ALL
TO REMAIN
ON STAND-BY
FOR THE
TIME BEING.

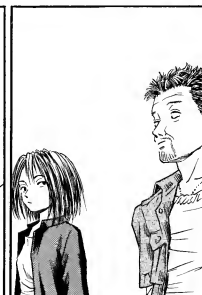
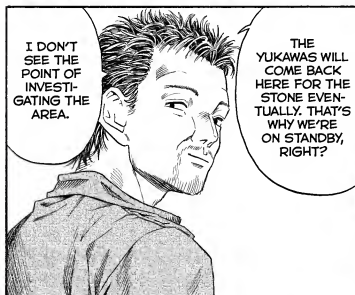


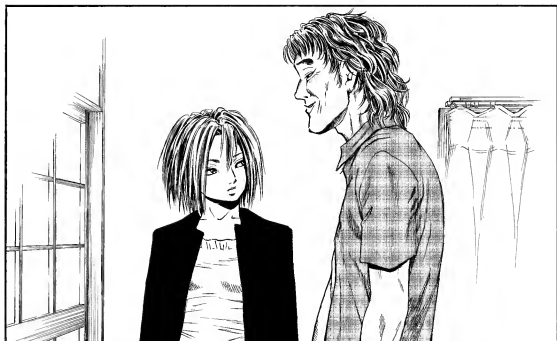
ANY
VOLUNTEERS?

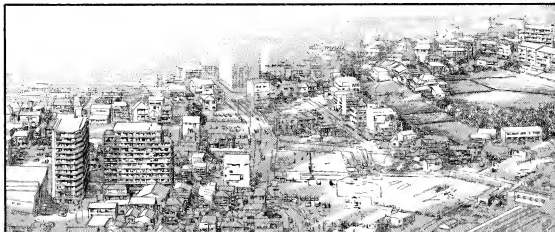
I WAS ONLY
TOLD IT WOULD
GIVE YOU FREE
TIME WHILE
INVESTIGATING
THE AREA.
SAGAWA WILL
GIVE YOU THE
DETAILS.

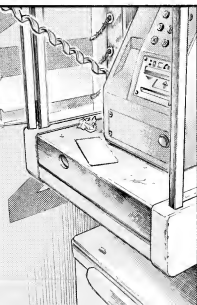


SPECIAL
MISSION?

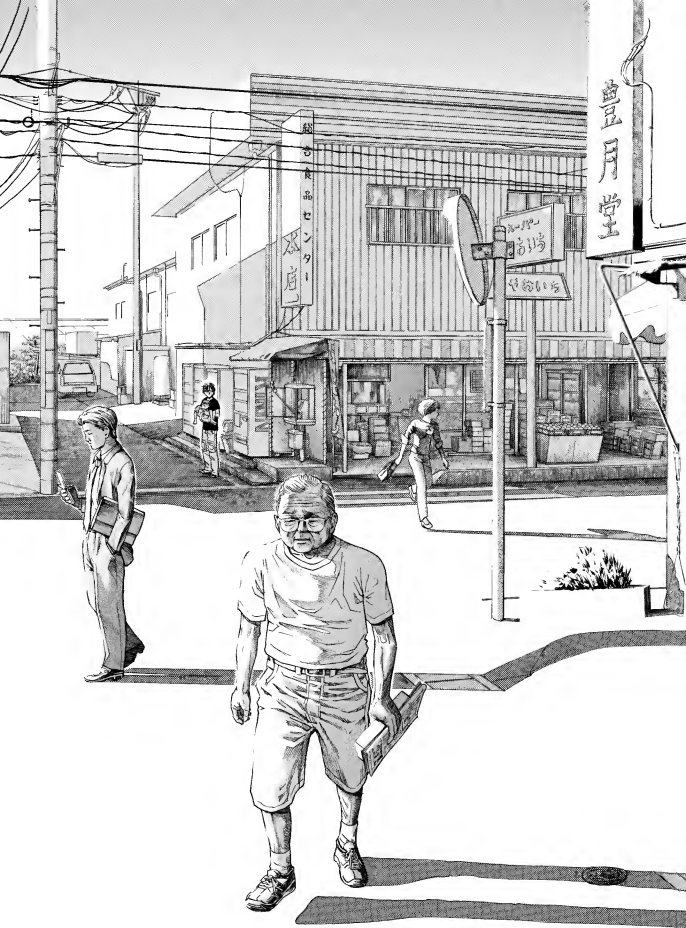


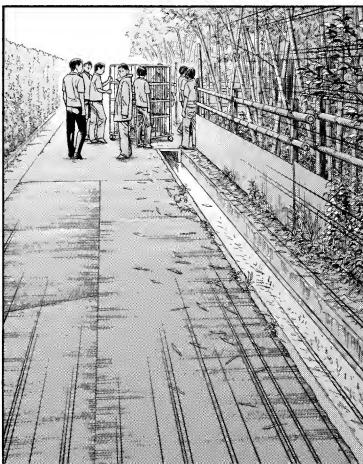
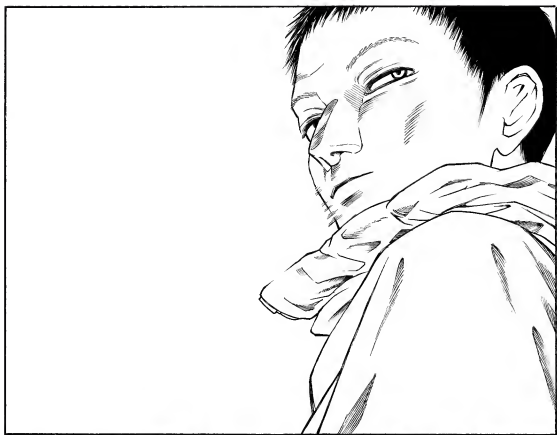


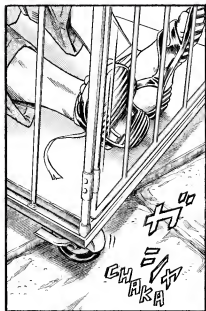


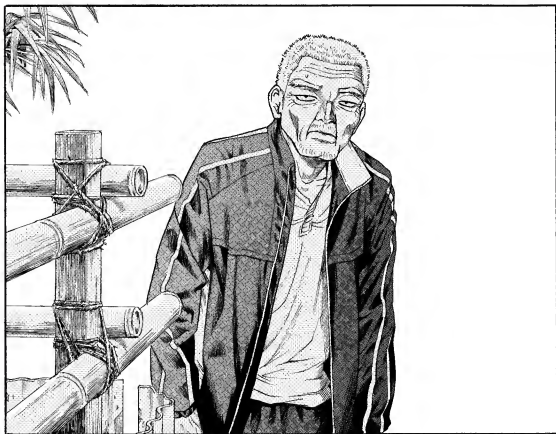
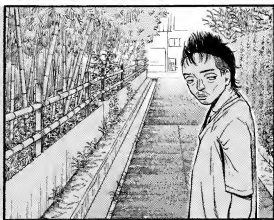


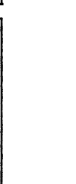
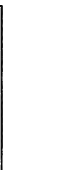
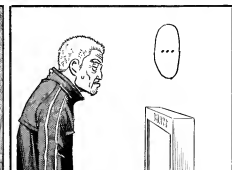


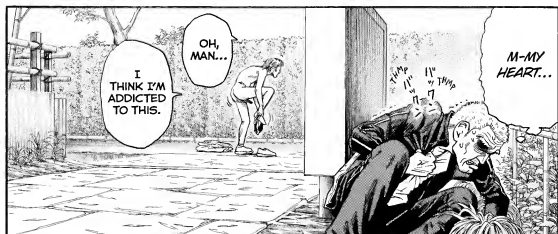












I
THINK I'M
ADDICTED
TO THIS.

OH,
MAN...

M-MY
HEART...



YOOO.



the
moon

in the
night



HE'S
IN THE
GARDEN.

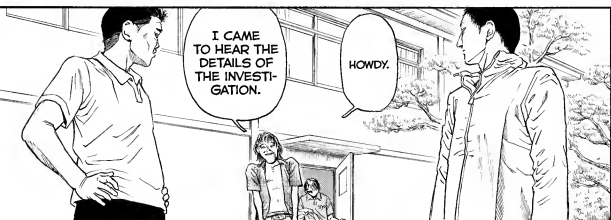
GO
AHEAD.

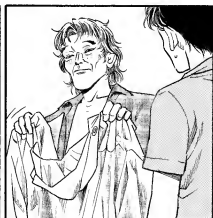
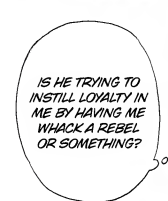


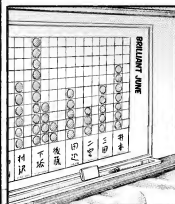
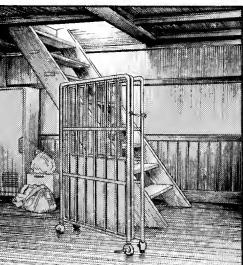
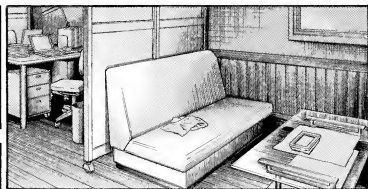
WHERE
IS HE?

SAGAWA-SAN
CALLED FOR
ME.

OH...











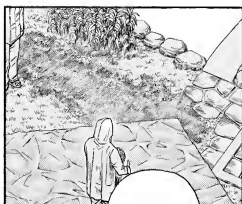
THIS KNIFE SHOULD BE LONG ENOUGH TO SEVER HIS NECK.



HE'LL BLEED OUT IF I CUT THE CAROTID.

OH, WAIT.

AND SINCE HE'S STALLED, HIS BLOOD'S NOT FLOWING RIGHT NOW.



LESSEE. CAROTID IS...



WELL, WHATEVER...



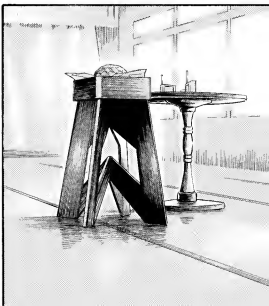
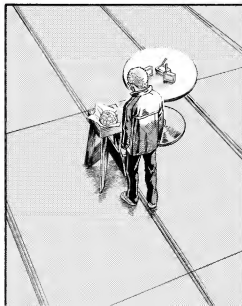
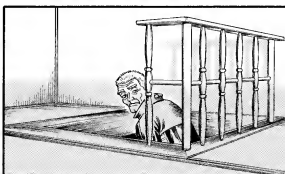
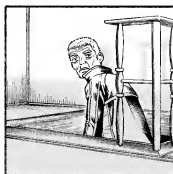
HM...?



NO BLOOD SHOULD SPLATTER NO MATTER WHERE I STAB.

IS THERE ANY POINT TO THIS RAINCOAT?

And the plastic sheet.

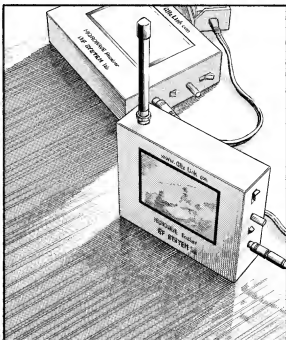
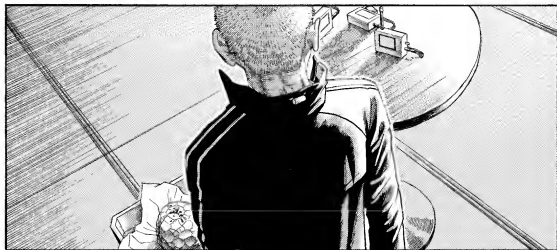




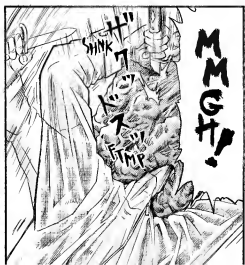
IT'S
SIMILAR!

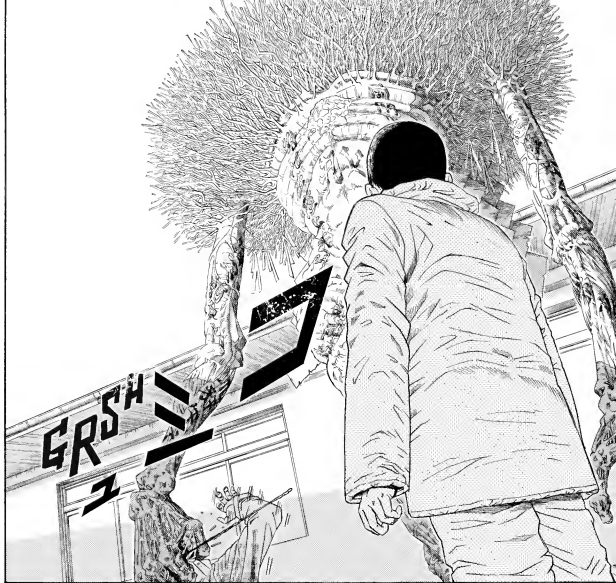


THIS STONE...





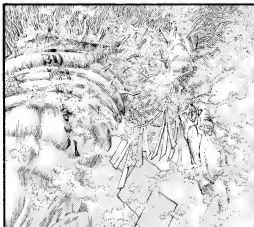


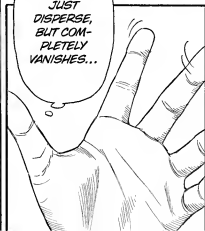


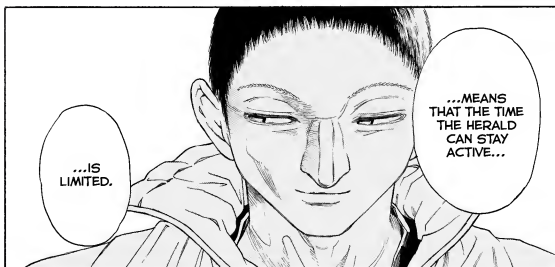
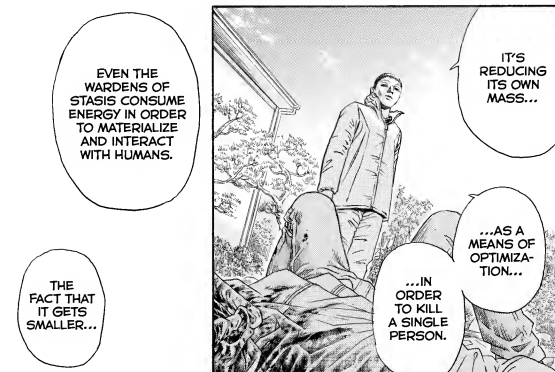
PERHAPS IT
RESPONDS TO
THE CHEMICAL
REACTIONS OR
BRAIN WAVES THAT
ARE PRODUCED
WHEN THERE'S
AN INTENT TO
KILL...



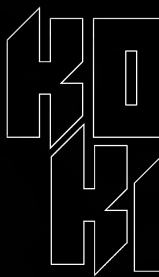
IT
WENT FOR
THE HEAD
AGAIN...

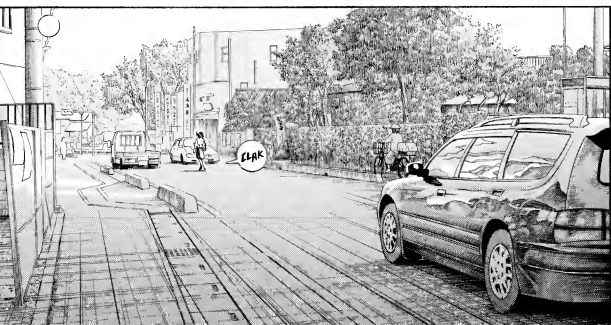
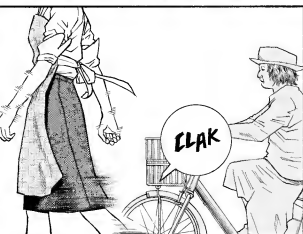


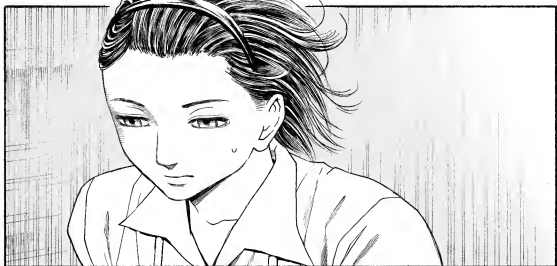


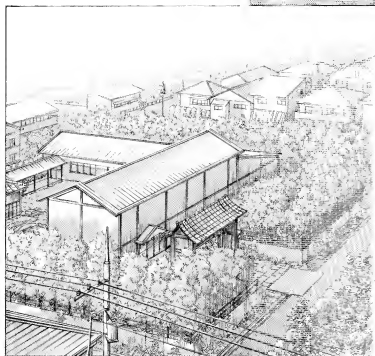
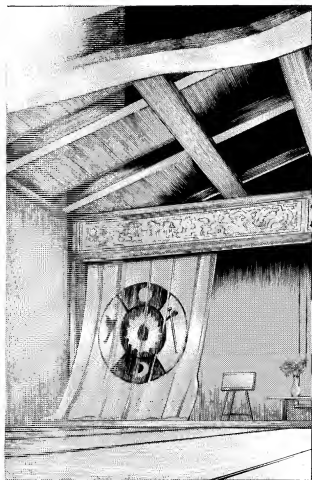


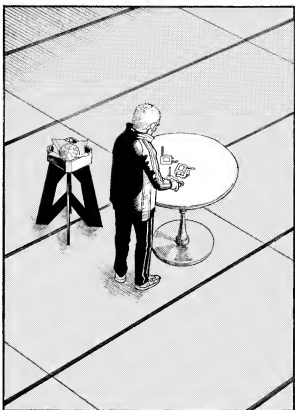
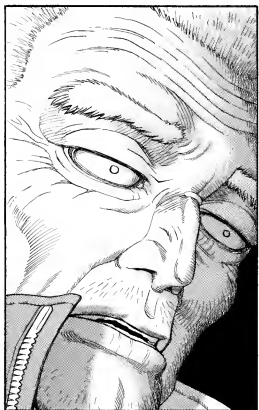
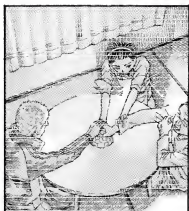
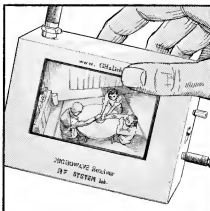




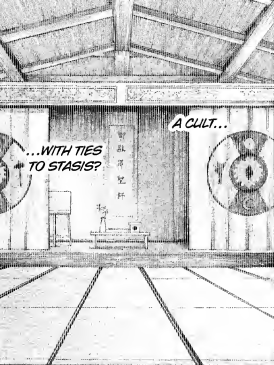








THEY PLANNED THE WHOLE THING...



...WITH TIES
TO STASIS?

A CULT...



...

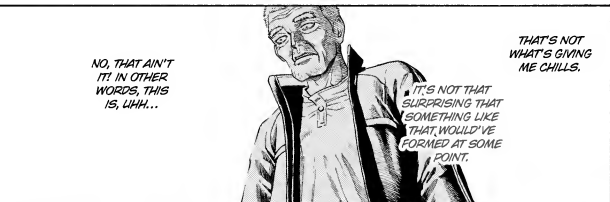


...TAKES MORE
THAN JUST A
FEW DAYS.

SINCE WHEN?

A PLAN THIS
ELABORATE...

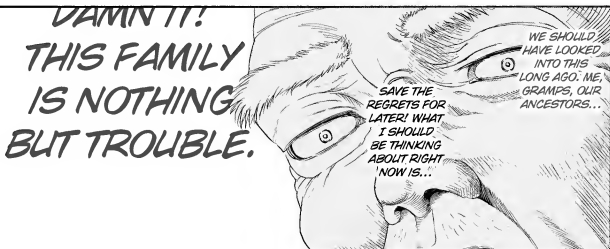
...NO.



NO, THAT AIN'T
IT! IN OTHER
WORDS, THIS
IS, UHH...

THAT'S NOT
WHAT'S GIVING
ME CHILLS.

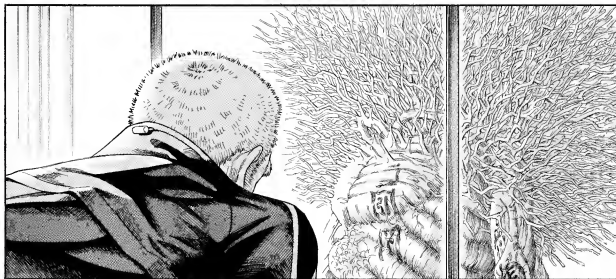
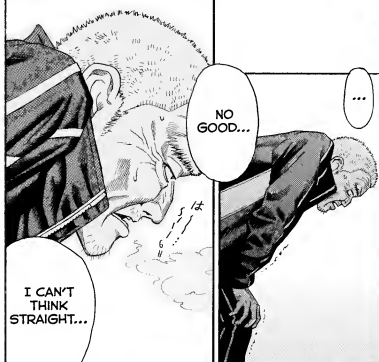
IT'S NOT THAT
SURPRISING THAT
SOMETHING LIKE
THAT, WOULD'VE
FORMED AT SOME
POINT.

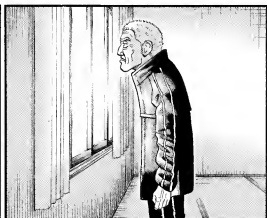
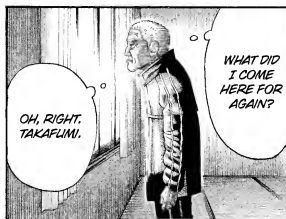
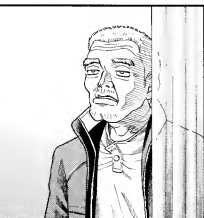
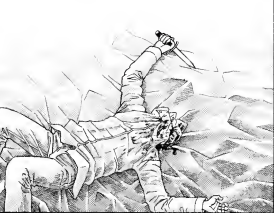


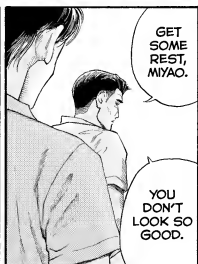
DAMN IT!
THIS FAMILY
IS NOTHING
BUT TROUBLE.

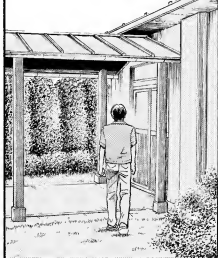
SAVE THE
REGRETS FOR
LATER! WHAT
I SHOULD
BE THINKING
ABOUT RIGHT
NOW IS...

WE SHOULD
HAVE LOOKED
INTO THIS
LONG AGO. ME,
GRAMPS, OUR
ANCESTORS...

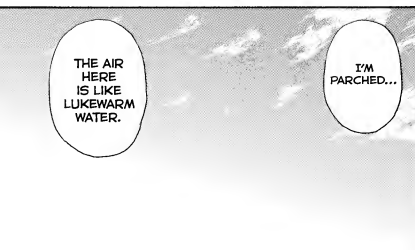
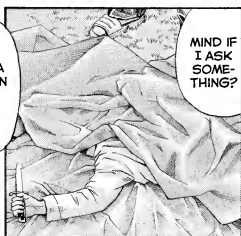


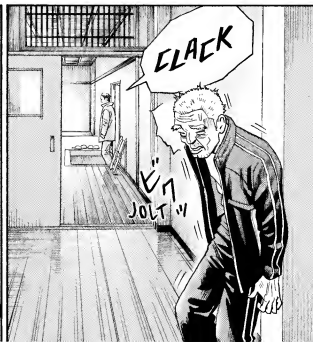
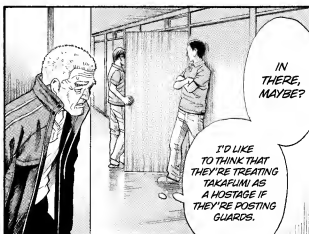


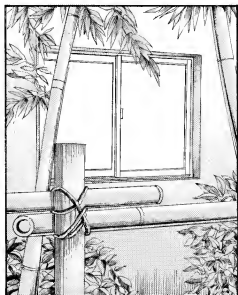


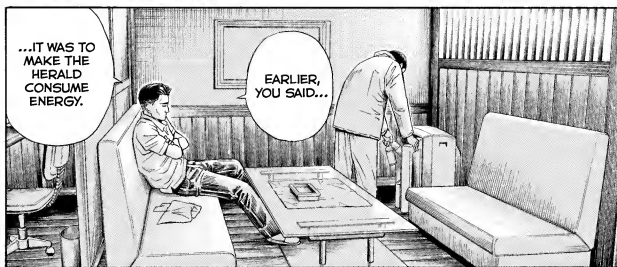


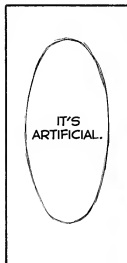
I HAVE A
FRIEND IN
GROUP
TWO.

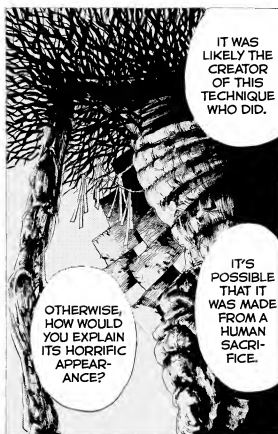
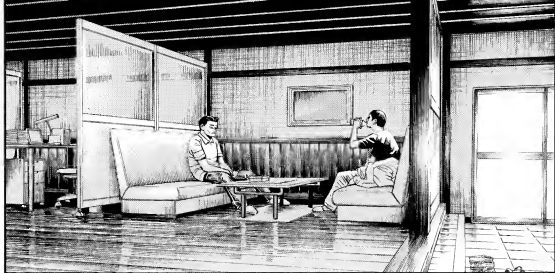


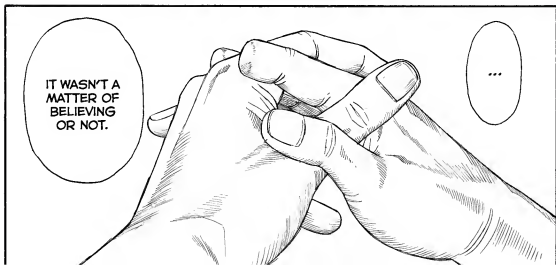
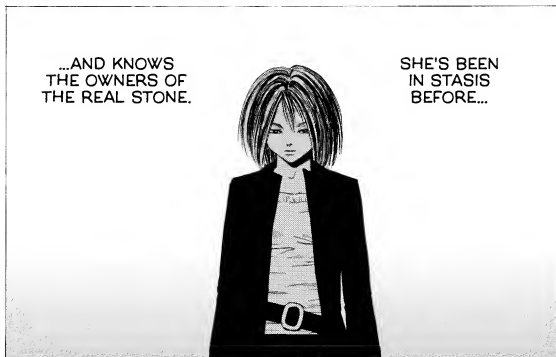














...I WAS
MOVED.

FOR THE
FIRST TIME
IN MY LIFE...



SHE WAS
SIZING US
UP FOR
HALF A
YEAR.

WHAT A
NASTY
WOMAN.

SHE ONLY
REVEALED
ALL OF
THAT SIX
MONTHS
AFTER
JOINING.



I WANNA
WRAP THIS
UP AND
HAVE A
SMOKE,
MAN.



OH,
RIGHT.

WE
MIGHT AS
WELL HAVE
BROUGHT
GUNS IF WE
COULD USE
FIRE HERE.



...



...DESPITE
WIELDING
ENOUGH
TALENT TO
OPEN THE
PORTAL TO
STASIS.

...AND ASSUME
THE ROLE OF
A RELIGIOUS
GURU...

I WONDERED
WHAT MADE
THE FOUNDER
DECIDE TO
MAKE THE
HERALD...

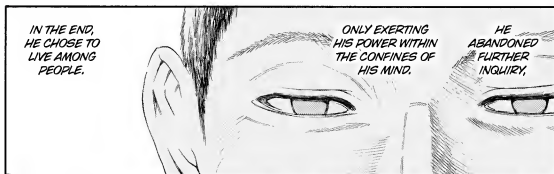
PERHAPS...

...HE WAS LIKE
THIS ALL ALONG.



...WHO ONLY
WISHES TO EARN
A SMALL FORTUNE
BY CARRYING OUT
ASSASSINATIONS
IN STASIS.

BUT IT COULD BE
THAT HE WAS NOT
MUCH DIFFERENT
FROM SHIBATA...

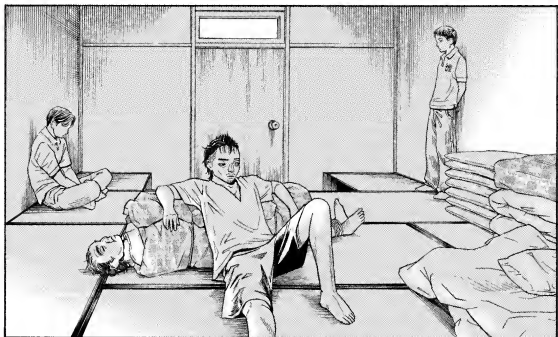


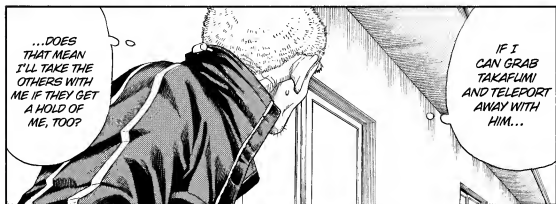
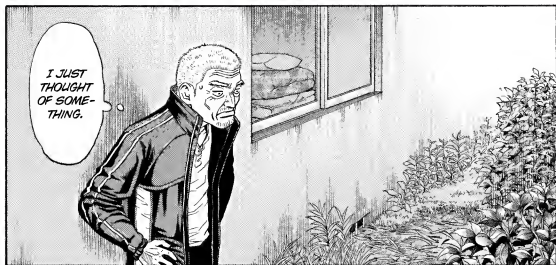
IN THE END,
HE CHOSE TO
LIVE AMONG
PEOPLE.

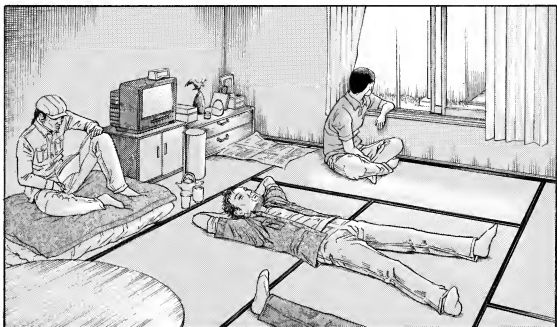
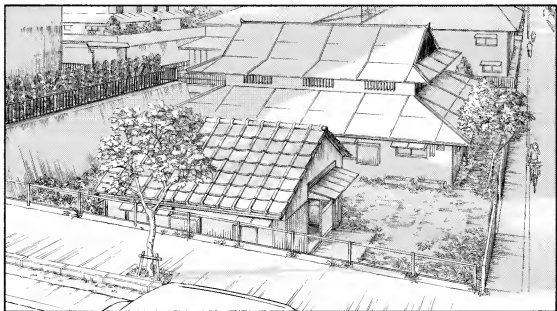
ONLY EXERTING
HIS POWER WITHIN
THE CONFINES OF
HIS MIND.

HE
ABANDONED
FURTHER
INQUIRY.



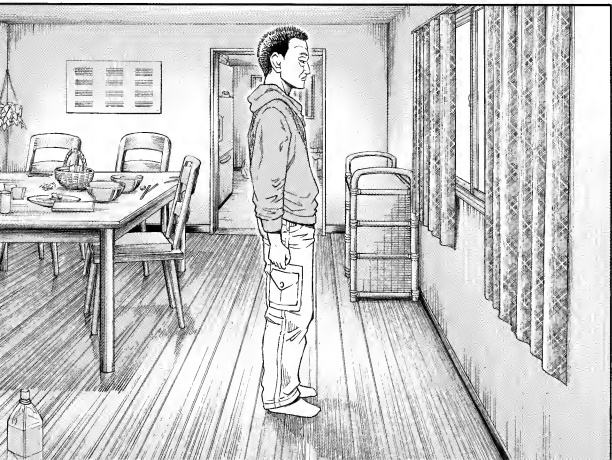
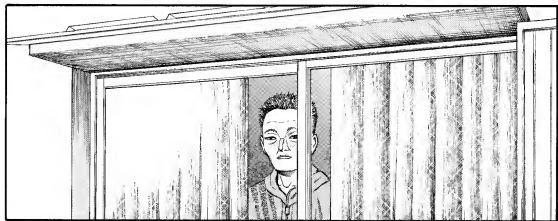
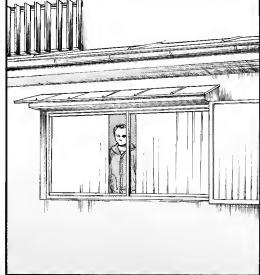


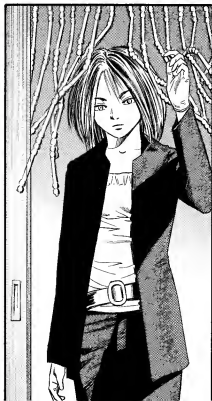
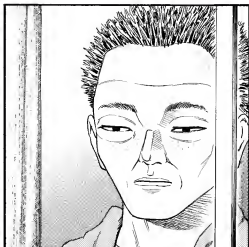


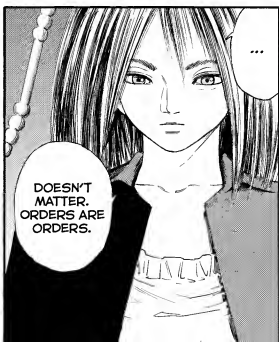














**AH,
HA, HA,
HA, HA!**



**YOU
LIED?**



**YOU
BELIEVED
ALL THAT
ABOUT
TELE-
PORTING?**

**SORRY
TO BOTHER
YOU. PLEASE,
CONTINUE.**

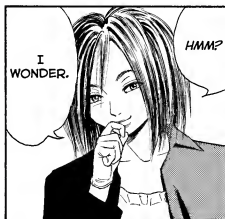


...BUT
YOU CAN'T
DO IT.



HUH?

OH,
THE TELE-
PORTING
BIT ITSELF
IS TRUE...



I
WONDER.

HMM?



YOU JUST
BELIEVE
WHATEVER'S
IN THE
DOCTRINE.

WHAT
MAKES
YOU SO
SURE
ABOUT
THAT?



HUH?



SAY, WHY
DID YOU
PARTICI-
PATE IN
THIS?

FOR
MONEY?



RSTLH

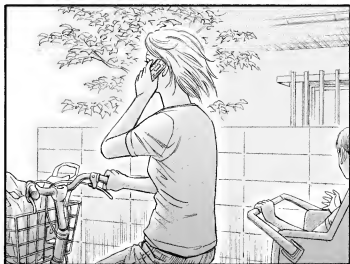
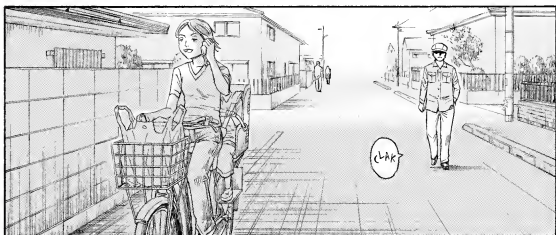
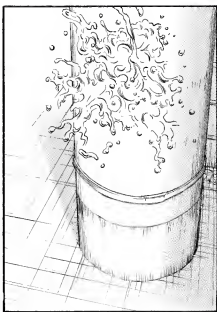
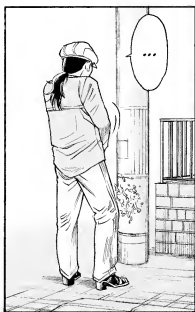


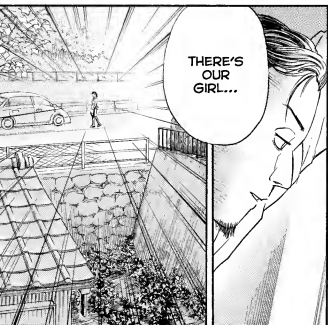
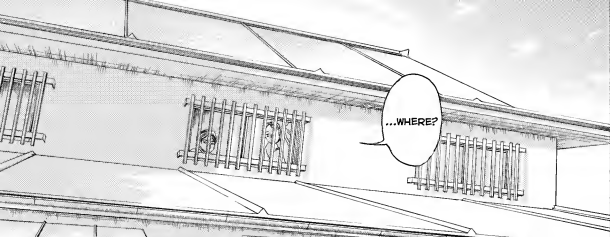
D-DO
IT YOUR-
SELF!

ARE
YOU
DONE
PRACTIC-
ING?

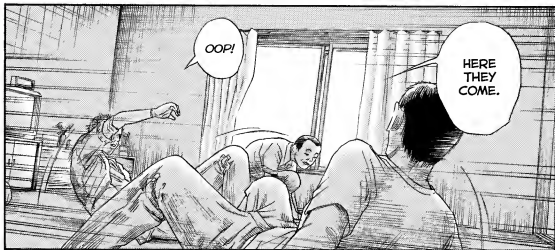
I
WANNA
WATCH!

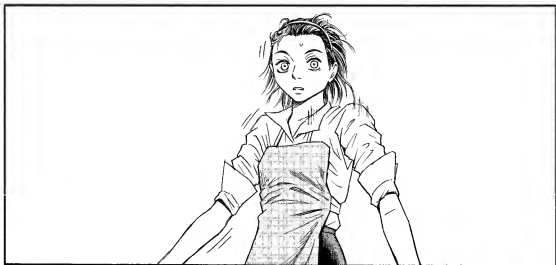
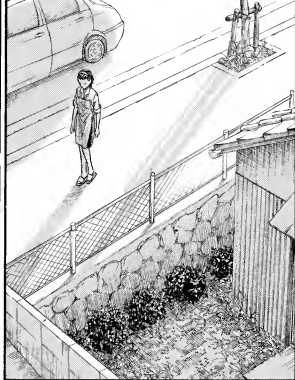
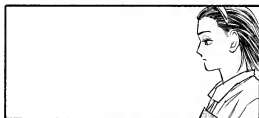


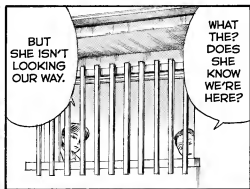
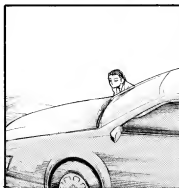
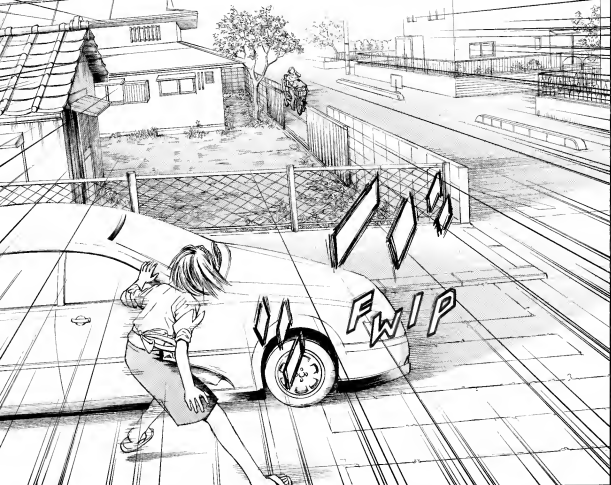


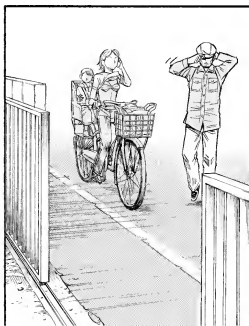
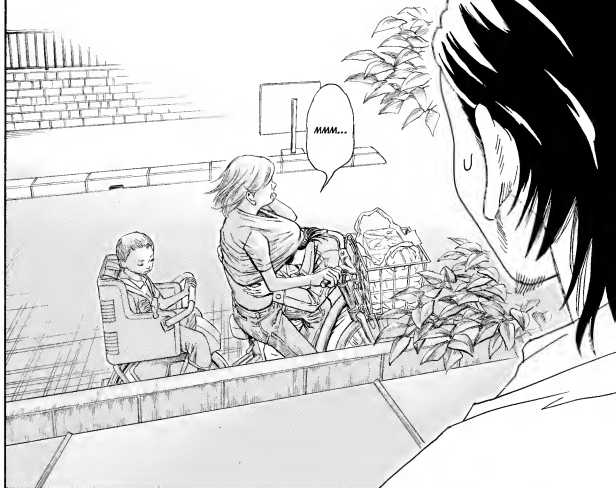


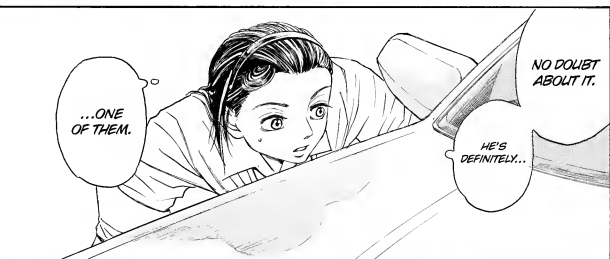






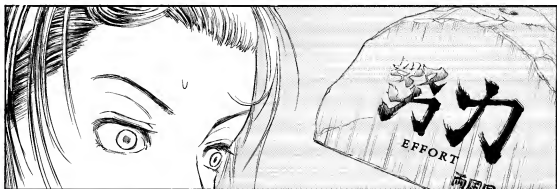






THE QUESTION
ISN'T HOW THEY
KNOW WHERE
WE LIVE...

...BUT WHAT
THEY'RE
HERE FOR!



...TO BE AT
OUR HOUSE?



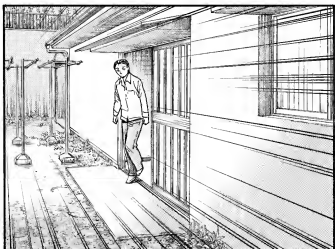
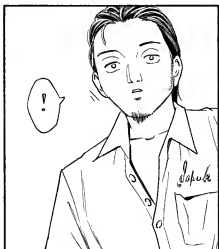
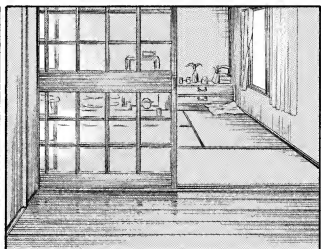
"MIGHT"?
NO WAY!

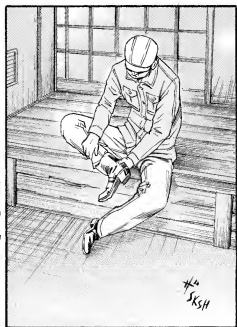
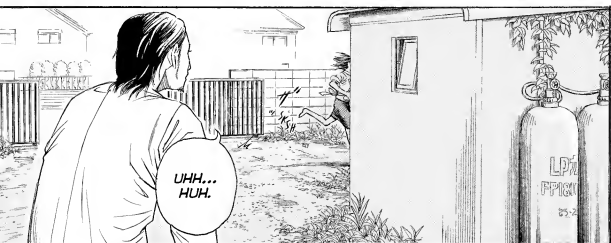
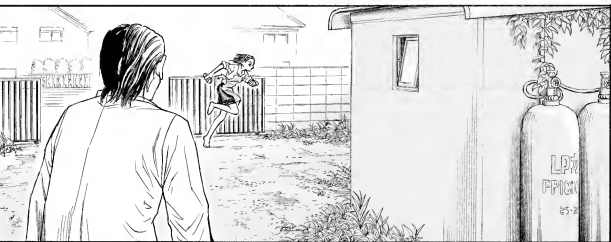
WHAT OTHER
REASON COULD
THEY HAVE...



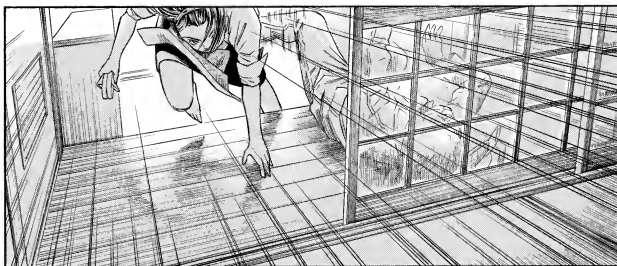
SINCE THEY CAN
ENTER STASIS,
THEY MIGHT
ALSO KNOW
ABOUT THE
STONE...

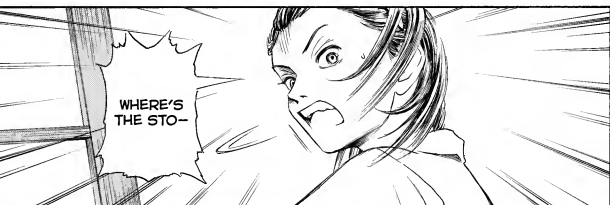
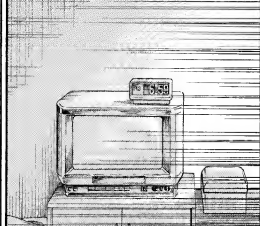


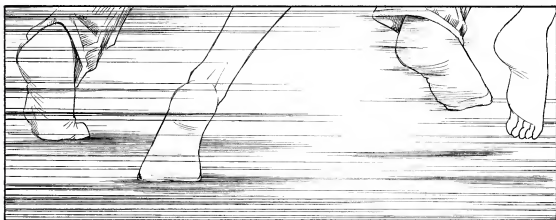
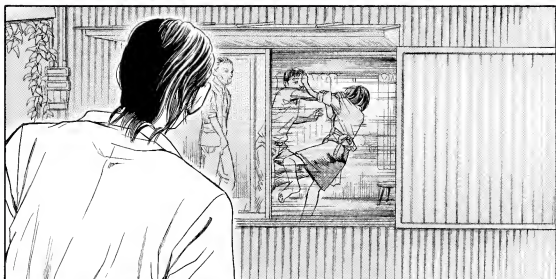


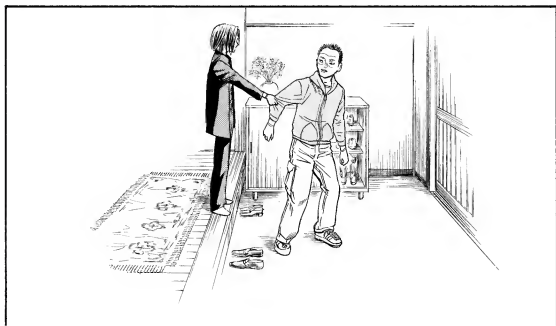


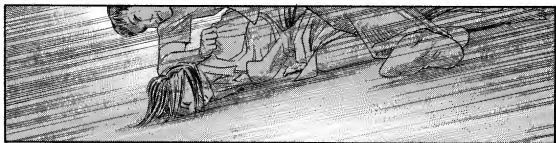
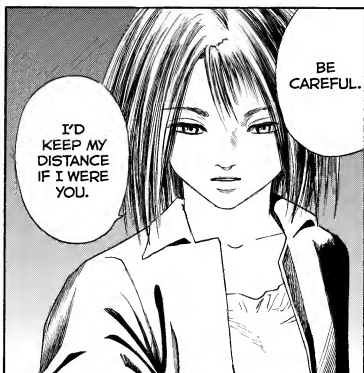
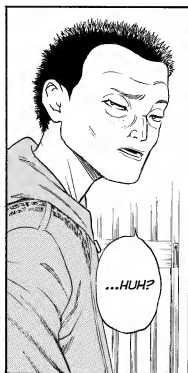




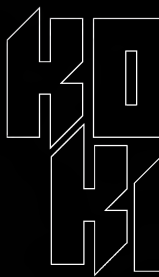












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